

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS***Middle East & North Africa*

Vol V No 96

17 May 1978

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Patah's Khalaf Gives Speech on 15 May Anniversary [VOP]	A	1	1/A7
Arab People's Congress Secretariat 15 May Statement	A	3	1/A9
Khalaf Criticizes UNIFIL Commander's Statement	A	4	1/A10
Athens Paper Interviews Patah's Abu Jihad [NEA EFIMERIDHA 13 May]	A	4	1/A10

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Chief of Staff Meets With UAE Counterpart	C	1	1/A14
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KUWAIT

Iraqi Interior Minister Ibrahim Arrives for 4-Day Visit	C	1	1/A14
Received by Amir	C	1	1/A14
Talks Open	C	1	1/A14
Meeting With Heir Apparent	C	2	1/B1

SAUDI ARABIA

Qatar Foreign Minister Arrives for Brief Visit	C	3	1/B2
Leaves Riyadh	C	3	1/B2

UAE

Information Minister, Egyptian Envoy Discuss Cooperation	C	3	1/B2
--	---	---	------

PDRY

USSR Official Addresses Artistic Gathering in PDRY	C	3	1/B2
YAR Envoy Delivers Letter to Council Chairman Rubayyi'	C	4	1/B3

YAR

Kuwait AS-SIYASAH Reports Rebellion in YAR	C	4	1/B3
Prime Minister Receives U.S. Charge, Somali Ambassador	C	4	1/B3

EGYPT

President as-Sadat Praises U.S. Senate Decision	D	1	1/B4
Sends Telegram to Carter	D	2	1/B5
Cairo Press Comments	D	2	1/D2
Mubarak Comments on Visits to Riyadh, Amman	D	4	1/B7
Foreign Minister Kamil Meets U.S., Zairian Envoys	D	4	1/B7
Meets With Elits	D	4	1/B7
Meets Zairian Ambassador	D	5	1/B8

Somali Foreign Minister Arrives for 1-Day Visit	D 5	1/B8
Arab Labor Organization Chairman Reported	D 5	1/B8
Public Prosecutor Interrogates Leftist Deputy	D 6	1/B9
AL-AHRAM: As-Sadat NY TIMES Interview Was Warning	D 6	1/B9
AL-AHRAM Discusses Attitude Toward Arab Solidarity [10 May]	D 6	1/B9
AL-AHRAM Discusses Arab Economic Aid to Egypt [12 May]	D 8	1/B11
Haykal Discusses Varying Concepts of Peace	D 10	1/B13
U.S. Directive on Oil Prospecting Noted	D 11	1/B14

IRAQ

ICATU Denounces Egypt's Deportation of Its Chairman	E 1	1/C1
Iraqi Oil Minister Leaves for Moscow Meetings	E 1	1/C1
INA, GNA Open Direct Communications Link	E 1	1/C1
Saddam Husayn Receives Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad	E 1	1/C1
Briefs: Peace Council Delegation	E 1	1/C1

JORDAN

Egyptian Vice President Concludes Visit	F 1	1/C2
Crown Prince Hasan Returns From Morocco	F 1	1/C2
Syrian Transport Minister Arrives in Amman	F 1	1/C2
King Husayn To Wed American Nur Halaby	F 1	1/C2
Jordanian Military Delegation Leaves for Vienna	F 2	1/C3
JORDAN TIMES Notes Importance of Planes Deal Approval [17 May]	F 2	1/C3

LEBANON

Prime Minister al-Huss Makes Statement	G 1	1/C4
Nationalist, Progressive Forces Criticize Lebanese Front	G 1	1/C4
President Sarkis, Rightist Leader Plan Trips to Syria	G 2	1/C5
Sham'un To Visit Damascus	G 2	1/C5
UNIFIL Commander Erskine Arrives in Beirut [Voice of Lebanon]	G 2	1/C5
Al-Huss Meets With Arab Deterrent Forces Commander	G 2	1/C5
Voice of Lebanon: Palestinian Infighting Continues	G 3	1/C6
INA: Israeli Planes Overfly Tyre	G 3	1/C6

SYRIA

Information Minister Grants Interview to Army Magazine	H 1	1/C7
European Parliament Delegation Welcomed by Khaddam	H 1	1/C7
Received by President	H 2	1/C8
Concludes Visit	H 2	1/C8
Jordanian Supplies Minister Seeks Syrian Wheat	H 2	1/C8
ZANU Leader Robert Mugabe Arrives in Damascus	H 3	1/C9
Scores Zionism	H 3	1/C9
Holds Talks	H 3	1/C9
Ba'th Party Official Returns From Romania	H 4	1/C10
Briefs: New Indonesian, Albanian Ambassadors	H 4	1/C10

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B Views Anniversary of Usurpation of Palestine [11 May]	I 1	1/C11
EL MOUDJAHID: POLISARIO Victory Certain [10 May]	I 2	1/C12
President Boumediene Receives Message From Cypriot Leader	I 2	1/C12

LIBYA

Libya Protests to Zaire Over 'False Accusations' of Involvement I 3 1/C13

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Portuguese Prime Minister Soares I 3 1/C13

SUDAN

President Numayri Optimistic About Arab Solidarity I 3 1/C13

Chad President Promises No Action While Mediation Efforts Continue I 4 1/C14

Finance Minister Receives PLO Khartoum Representative I 5 1/D1

TUNISIA

GDR Defense Minister Hoffman Arrives on Visit to Tunisia I 5 1/D1

Meets With Tunisian Officials I 5 1/D1

Prime Minister Nouira Returns From Libya I 5 1/D1

ISRAEL

Sources Confirm As-Sadat Has Proposed Separate Peace [MA'ARIV 16 May] N 1 1/D2

Reaction To, Comment on Senate Vote Continues N 1 1/D2

Defense Minister Weizman N 1 1/D2

Prime Minister Begin N 2 1/D3

Jerusalem Political Circles N 2 1/D3

MK's Arens, Peres N 3 1/D4

Commentator Guiney [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 16 May] N 4 1/D5

MA'ARIV Editorial [16 May] N 5 1/D6

Foreign Minister Dayan N 5 1/D6

Begin Answers Knesset Motion on U.S. Package Deal N 6 1/D7

Directives Issued To Avoid Statements on Disputed Issues N 6 1/D7

['AL HAMISHMAR 16 May]

Budgetary Considerations Halt Road-Paving in Samaria N 7 1/D8

[HA'AREZ 15 May]

Plans for Rafah Approaches Settlements Reported N 7 1/D8

['AL HAMISHMAR 15 May]

Tapu'ah To Become Civilian Settlement in Samaria N 8 1/D9

['AL HAMISHMAR 16 May]

West Bank Leaders Oppose Autonomy Plan N 9 1/D10

Accusations Against Soldiers in Nabulus Denied N 9 1/D10

Burg Speaks to NRP Before MAPDAL Convention [POST 15 May] N 10 1/D11

Gas Deposit Found at Diqla in Rafah Approaches N 11 1/D12

[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 14 May]

Mexico Reportedly To Increase Crude Oil Sales N 11 1/D12

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Text of Prime Minister Taraki's 9 May Speech S 1 1/D13

INDIA

Kunda Departs for Havana Nonaligned Meeting S 6 1/E4

India Radio Comments on Indictment of Mrs Gandhi S 6 1/E4

V. 17 May 78

4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

NEPAL

PRC Boundary Delegation Arrives in Katmandu

S 7 1/E5

PAKISTAN

Bhutto Formally Charged With Election Rigging

S 7 1/E5

13 Journalists Sentenced, Fined by Military Courts

S 8 1/E6

CENTO Secretary General Visits Pakistan, Meets Chaudhry

S 8 1/E6

Meets With Haq

S 8 1/E6

BRIEFS

Indian-Egyptian Agricultural Agreement; Sri Lanka Receives Aid;
Bumper Rice Harvest

S 8 1/E6

MAY 23 1978

PrEX 7.10: FBIS- MEA-78-96

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

63

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FATAH'S KHALAF GIVES SPEECH ON 15 MAY ANNIVERSARY

JN162116Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1727 GMT
16 May 78 JN

["Text" of speech delivered by Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, in the Siblin Institute near Sidon on 16 May on the 15 May anniversary--recorded]

[Excerpts] Brothers and sisters: 15 May for us--the generation of this date--means (?the past). It also means 30 years in which we were young men like you. We lived through eviction and immigration. We lived through the entire plot. On 15 May 30 years ago we lived through the bitterness of seeing a state established on our people's debris.

The bitter and difficult emergence of the revolution came on 1 January 1965 [applause] when the vanguards of Al-'Asifah sprang forth to proclaim for the first time this people's rebellion and defiance of all the Arab regimes. The significance of this emergence lay in the fact that it did not pass through the office of any of the Arab intelligence organs. All the Arab intelligence services were taken by surprise. They began to inquire, accuse and cast doubts. They resorted to any and all means to combat this small group. With all their attempts to cast doubts, and with their war of rumors, they have not stopped fabricating accusations against us. In Saudi Arabia we are atheist communists. In Libya we are fanatic Nasirites. In Jordan we are either communists or Ba'thists. In Egypt during 'Abd an-Nasir's era we were Moslem brothers.

We remained steadfast until 1967, when the entire Arab nation was living through the despair and bitterness of defeat. I do not want to say what the state of the Arab leaders was at that time. We burst forth on 1 August 1967--less than 2 months after the defeat. The Arab nation sensed that these fedayeen represented its pan-Arabism and dignity. They represented all their aspirations for liberation and ending the occupation.

We burst forth and entered the honeymoon stage with the Arab regimes. Even King Husayn called himself "the first fedayeen." They extended us support and anything that could be given, even before their people. However, at the same time they were stretching other ropes to twist around our necks. We struggled through a vicious conspiracy hatched by King Husayn's regime in September [1970]. We stood fast and burst forth again, making everybody realize that this revolution cannot end.

The October war broke out. We should pause at this point to make a few remarks regarding the October war. The first remark deals with those who fought during the October war. We heartily hail them. We hail the Egyptian soldiers and officers and the Syrian soldiers and officers. We hail every Arab soldier and officer who fought in this war.

The second remark is this: As-Sadat wanted to use this war to sit on top of the skulls of those who were martyred to proclaim for the first time in history that a peace conference would be held, to be attended by certain big powers, the Arab sides and the Zionist occupation entity.

Immediately following this proclamation, the 2-year war [in Lebanon] broke out. We all suffered in this war. We all saw how this war--despite the martyrs who fell--was a psychological war directed against the essence of our cause so that everybody would say: Look at the Palestinians--they are massacring the Christians. They tried to depict it as a sectarian war or a leftist war.

Despite the differences which appear from time to time among the various groups of the revolution, we are determined to uphold our national unity. If we (?achieve) this unity, which is based on (?solid grounds), we can proceed to a unity with the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and all [words indistinct]. Let our Lebanese brothers be reassured that this is our frank and open stand in Lebanon.

How can any Palestinian leader ask a Palestinian person or revolutionary to throw down his arms? Let us be logical. Thus, regarding our armed presence, I would like to say that every Lebanese should understand this and change his view on this issue.

We all know that all the Arab and international contradictions are now found in the Lebanese arena. The Lebanese arena can be an explosive arena where all the problems of the Arab states and even the world can be focused. The problems of the entire world can come to Lebanon. We know this fact, but the other side should also know it. To be specific: In October, there will be [words indistinct]. The mandate of the deterrent forces in Lebanon will end. The 6-month mandate of the UN forces will also end. During or after October, Lebanon is considered [words indistinct].

We are prepared to adhere to the agreements [words indistinct] for the sake of the great Lebanese people. We are against an explosion. I tell you frankly, the only way to prevent an explosion is to (?conclude) an agreement with the Palestinian revolution on all details. There are those who are trying to torpedo the situation by exploiting numerous contradictions in this country and exploiting [words indistinct].

The latest As-Sadat [words indistinct] is the statement that he was prepared to accept the return of the Gaza Strip to Egypt and the West Bank to Jordan. [words indistinct--this is a capitulationist attitude. Gaza and the West Bank are not for Anwar as-Sadat--they are for the Palestinian people. Our people want to decide their own future. [words indistinct] we have the courage to say that we want to establish the Palestinian state on Palestinian land, even if this land is only one inch of territory.

We want the front of confrontation and steadfastness to assume the responsibility in order to prevent the Zionist enemy from becoming (?established on our land) and through this front our stand will affect the other Arab states. [Words indistinct] and so that our stand in support of the Egyptian people will be of real support to help create a leadership which will respect this people, their struggle and history.

We want to be a popular war of liberation. Our motto will be sacrifice and martyrdom. We have nothing in this world except ourselves and [word indistinct]. We as Palestinians lost the land but we will always regard the land as our land and we will fight until Palestine returns to the Arabs, and not just to the Palestinians. We are confident that this land will not be liberated for the sake of the Palestinians alone but for stopping the aggression against the Arabs.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SECRETARIAT 15 MAY STATEMENT

LD150013Y Tripoli JANA in English 1910 GMT 14 May 78 LD

["Statement by the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress"--JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, May 14 JANA--The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress yesterday issued a statement on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of usurpation of Palestine.

"On the 15th of May thirty years will have passed since the occupation of Palestine. The Zionists persist in their iniquity, depriving and killing our Arab Palestinian people.

Even this has not satisfied their rancour, that they have gone on to occupy parts of Egypt, Syria and Lebanon, and who knows what more is to come as their announced ambitions are from the Nile to the Euphrates.

All that was not enough for the Zionists, their imperialist allies and their reactionary Arab stooges. They also wanted a moral and political defeat for the Arab man. Unfortunately they have achieved that. Also, they have occupied Cairo, the centre of gravity of the Arab homeland, where they conducted their military and political strikes to impose the status quo upon the Arab nation.

Undoubtedly it is a tragedy and a sad fact that defeat and submission have been imposed upon Arab dignity and national pride.

In spite of all the repeated conspiracies the vital revolutionary forces among our nation have not lost their correct outlook and the armed struggle of the Palestinian revolution has been supported and protected by the Arab masses.

Today 30 years have passed since the occupation of Palestine and the enemy persists in its intransigence and aggression of occupying southern Lebanon.

The stands of the Arab masses and governments are quite clear, thus the patriotism, progressiveness and Arabism of any regime or organisation is determined by its stand towards the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movements.

Words and propaganda are no longer capable of covering national treasons. Let everybody shoulder his responsibilities of struggle to protect the Arab and Palestinian armed struggle, otherwise the fate of future generations will pursue those who abandon their responsibilities and the popular revolutionary will ultimately overthrow the reactionary traitors.

On this occasion, which marks a severe national setback the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress affirms its support for the permanent secretariat's resolutions which stated that the Palestinian struggle is a national struggle for liberation, its aim is the unity of the dialectic of struggle as an end and a means. Since this 30-year-old national defeat is caused by divided leadership and the treachery of the stooge regimes, and since a victory will not be achieved without a new national outlook, idealistic spirit of struggle and an effective revolutionary will particularly in the current decisive circumstances, we affirm the permanent secretariat's resolutions:

1. To open the door to honourable volunteers to wage struggle and to launch continuous campaigns for this purpose.
2. To open the door to donations and aid and to launch continuous campaigns for this purpose.
3. As a practical expression of rejecting the occupation, affirming our right in Palestine and standing by our people under the occupation, it has been decided to donate the wages of the 15th of May for the sake of the Palestinians in the occupied land.
4. To launch information and political campaigns to expose the capitulationist plots and the discredited calls for solidarity.
5. To insist that armed struggle is the only way to recover Palestine.

Working on implementing those steps is the proof of the sincerity and seriousness of what we say. The peace and mercy of God be upon you.

KHALAF CRITICIZES UNIFIL COMMANDER'S STATEMENT

NC160955Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 16 May--Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, has accused UNIFIL commander Gen Emmanuel Erskine of violating Lebanon's sovereignty. He demanded an urgent explanation of yesterday's statement by General Erskine, so that serious complications may be averted.

In a statement he made today, Abu Iyad said that Erskine's assertion that there is a contradiction between UN Security Council Resolution 425 and the Cairo agreement regulating the relations between the Lebanese authorities and the Palestinian resistance, was contrary to what was said during last month's talks between UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Abu Iyad also said that the Palestinian resistance has nothing to do with the UN Security Council resolution which deals with the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon and the restoration of Lebanese authority there--two things which the Palestinian resistance supports.

ATHENS PAPER INTERVIEWS FATAH'S ABU JIHAD

AT131750Y Athens NEA EFIMERIDHA in Greek 13 May 78 p 2 AT

[Report on interview with Fatah official Khalil al-Wazir, Abu Jihad, by NEA EFIMERIDHA by unattributed contributor on unspecified date]

[Text] We met with Abu Jihad in a large apartment in a Beirut building. From the outside nothing showed that the Fatah headquarters was in that building. However, as soon as the door opened, the stern faces of the stout guards, with Kalashnikovs in their hands, made you feel that you were indeed in some sort of headquarters.

We are old acquaintances of Abu Jihad and it was only for this reason that he agreed to talk with me in question-and-answer style. Abu Jihad gives no interviews and avoids publicity and photographers. He is a tough fighter, with an ascetic face, and lives only for the struggle of his people. His responsibility is great because he is the military chief of Fatah, the main leader of the Palestinian revolution.

He is dressed in a simple uniform of the fedayeen that has been made in the workshops that operate in the camps. He is one of the first who rose up against the Israeli invaders. He has endured unimaginable personal persecutions that damaged his health in the past and is a leader on the rise.

On the day we met, his face was radiant. As he told me, half an hour before he had been informed that in the heart of the Zionist state, near Begin's house in Jerusalem, a missile weighing 25 kils had been launched and he asked me: "Are we not everywhere? The fedayeen carry out even the boldest operations, they carried a fairly large missile into the heart of Jerusalem and it is impossible for one to imagine how many control points there are everywhere--on the borders, in the ports, at the airports, in all the streets, constantly."

When I asked him about the victims and the damage that had been caused, his face grew stern. "The fedayeen respect human life and feel sorry for the victims of this dirty war that was imposed on us by the imperialists. We are not the ones who started the war. Now the only goal of our operations is to make our presence felt everywhere. So, as soon as the chauvinists thought they had weakened us by means of their recent raid in southern Lebanon, we sent them a sample of our presence throughout the whole of occupied Palestine."

Then I asked him about the new conditions that had been created by the recent invasion. "There are no new and old conditions for us. For 30 years we have been the victims of a number of imperialist conspiracies. The imperialists are conspiring at the expense of all progressive peoples of the area. We have suffered even greater blows. Is it not true that they are conspiring against Greece? I very much fear that this summer will be a very warm summer for Greece. We have lost our fatherland and we are fighting to regain it. For this reason, as long as there is even one fedayeen in the world our struggle will continue. The Zionists know this very well and want to crush us. When their plans fail, they constantly change conspiratorial tactics. We have had the strength to confront them for 30 years and after every blow from them we have emerged even stronger.

"Our people were expelled from their fatherland. As refugees in neighboring countries we regrouped ourselves. When the Zionists saw that our people living in Jordan were organizing themselves in a revolutionary manner, they created 'Black September.' At the time we lamented the loss of many, and many people thought that the Palestinian revolution had been smashed, but they were mistaken. We again took the road of refugees and regrouped our forces in Syria and Lebanon.

Soon after, when we became strong again, our confinement and persecution in Syria began. We did not capitulate but regrouped once again. This spiritual strength of our people has frightened the Zionists and since then they have wanted to bring us into confrontation with our Arab brothers. They worked methodically and found allies among the Phalangists of Lebanon. However, the Palestinian resistance endured even this ordeal and did not yield.

"By means of these methods, however, the Zionists have hindered us from our main task: the liberation of Palestine. They have found allies who by fighting us have relieved Israel of our pressure.

"Later, Zionist conspiracies brought us into confrontation with Syria. At the time they thought that at Tall az-Za'atar they had created a new Black September from which we would not be able to regroup. They believed that they had crushed us completely. Again, however, we emerged stronger.

"A recent example is the latest invasion in southern Lebanon. We had advance information about the Israeli attack. Yasir 'Arafat had reported this officially when he was in Moscow long before the bus incident occurred. This incident was a pretext, as Menachem Begin admitted. The invasion had been in the offing long before that. So we had taken precautions. We changed tactics. We did everything we had to do in order to protect our noncombatant brothers who were living in refugee camps. Our military forces were dispersed throughout southern Lebanon and our noncombatants were moved from the camps. Thus we did not have many casualties and the invaders bombed targets and areas where not even one Palestinian was to be found.

"Characteristically, I say that in an [word misprinted] area in which they thought our forces would be concentrated, they dropped hundreds of tons of artillery shells and airplane rockets. However, in that area only 15 fedayeen had remained and they had excellent cover. I estimate that for each fedayeen more than 20 tons of explosives had been dropped.

"I must also stress that in using the great sums of money Israel spends for publicity in Western countries, it distorts the facts. For example, it stated that the soldiers it had lost in the invasion numbered only 16, but in a message we intercepted we heard mention of 24 dead and 70 wounded. Furthermore, a Jordanian newspaper that has gathered all the death notices bearing the indication 'died for his country' that were published those days in only four Israeli newspapers raises the figure to 240 dead."

Continuing our discussion on the future developments of the struggle of the Palestinian people, we reached the issue that is currently important: political developments in Lebanon. Abu Jihad refused to take any position on this issue, but only noted:

"Temporarily we are in Lebanon as guests. Our fatherland is Palestine. Consequently, we have no right to involve ourselves in Lebanon's internal affairs. The only thing we ask is the right to live free in this country and that our activities not be impeded, activities that are linked with Palestine's liberation."

Then, referring to future developments, Abu Jihad said:

"We know that the conspiracies of the imperialists and the Zionists are continuing and that these will continue up to the day we liberate Palestine. We stand firm on our positions and we shall continue fighting. We know and we expect the conspirators to change tactics. Since they cannot crush us militarily, they will try many other methods to disperse us. We are not afraid even of this. Every Palestinian is a fighter for Palestinian liberation and we number more than 3 million. We shall continue our struggle, thanks to the support of progressive mankind.

"I take this opportunity to ask you to convey to the progressive Greek comrades our thanks for their warm support for our struggle. As you know, we, too, are interested in the peaceful future of our Greek neighbors and we support their progressive struggles, as we have shown by our complete support for your Cypriot brothers in their struggle for independence and national integrity. We also thank the Greek Government and the Greek people for the steady help they have been giving us on the international level.

"Finally, you can announce that very soon a special delegation of ours will go to Athens to discuss obtaining the official approval of the Greek Government so that we may establish an information office for the Palestine Liberation Organization in Greece."

BAHRAIN

CHIEF OF STAFF MEETS WITH UAE COUNTERPART

JN161448Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1420 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 16 May--Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Khalifah, Bahraini chief of staff, met here this morning with Staff Maj Gen 'Awwad al-Khalidi, UAE chief of staff, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Lt Col 'Abdallah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini assistant chief of staff for operations. Maj Gen 'Awwad al-Khalidi arrived in Manama earlier today on a visit to Bahrain that will last several hours.

KUWAIT

IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER IBRAHIM ARRIVES FOR 4-DAY VISIT

LD161534Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Summary] Iraqi Interior Minister 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived here today for a 4-day visit. He was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah and Interior Minister Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah. In an arrival statement, Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim expressed satisfaction at visiting Kuwait. His delegation, he said, will attend the first meeting of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti Joint Ministerial Commission.

Received by Amir

LD161536Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] His highness the amir received Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, interior minister and member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] of Iraq, at 1030 this morning at the As-Sif Palace. The delegation accompanying Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim includes Mr Hasan 'Ali, minister of trade and member of the RCC of Iraq; Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hamadi; Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali; and Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait Thamir 'Abd ar-Razzaq [word indistinct]. The amir received the Iraqi delegation on the occasion of its visit to Kuwait. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Interior Minister Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir and Commerce and Industry Minister 'Abd al-Wahab Yusuf an-Nifisi.

Talks Open

JN161930Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1538 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May--The first round of Iraqi-Kuwaiti talks began in Kuwait this evening. The Iraqi side was headed by 'Izzat Ibrahim, member of the RCC and interior minister, while the Kuwaiti side was headed by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

The Iraqi side included Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, foreign minister; 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, Foreign Ministry under secretary; Mahdi Muhsin 'Awdah, trade ministry under secretary; Sa'id al-Malik al-'Ali, Irrigation Ministry under secretary; Hisham Ayyub Sabri, under secretary of the Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Ministry; Thamir ar-Razzaq, Iraqi ambassador in Kuwait; and several experts and specialists in the fields of economics, industry, agriculture, health, transport, communications, culture and information.

The Kuwaiti side included Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, minister of interior; Shaykh Salman Qu'ayid as-Salman, minister of state for legal affairs; Commerce and Industry Minister 'Abd al-Wahab Yusuf an-Nifisi; Maj Gen 'Abd al-Latif Paysal ath-Thuwayni, Interior Ministry under secretary; Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid, Foreign Ministry under secretary; 'Abdallah Hamad al-Hamad, Trade Ministry under secretary; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abdallah as-Sar'awi, Kuwaiti ambassador in Iraq and a number of experts and specialists.

At the beginning of the talks, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who heads the Kuwait side of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti joint commission, warmly welcomed the Iraqi delegation and expressed the feelings of brotherhood and love which bind the two fraternal countries. He pointed out that the current state of Arab affairs necessitates such a meeting and stressed Kuwait's readiness to cooperate with Iraq in all fields. He noted the importance of meetings and visits in strengthening the ties of brotherhood.

For his part, Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, who is the head of the Iraqi side in the Iraqi-Kuwaiti joint commission, expressed his appreciation and thanks for the warm welcome he and the Iraqi delegation received on their arrival in Kuwait, particularly the reception given upon their arrival by His Highness Prince Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah and His Highness the Heir Apparent Sa'd al-'Abdallah.

Mr Ibrahim agreed with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on the need to strengthen relations between the two countries. He said: Through this cooperation we serve not only our two countries but the whole Arab nation. We hope to cooperate in the agricultural, economic, industrial, cultural, health, educational and other fields. Our method of cooperation should be a paragon to be emulated by the Arab countries and thereby serve our Arab nation, now and in the future.

Mr Ibrahim said it is important for this meeting to achieve positive results, because it is on a responsible level and reflects the desires of both countries to realize our hopes and aspirations.

The INA mission accompanying the delegation has learned that RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali is to meet tomorrow with Kuwaiti Commerce and Industry Minister 'Abd al-Wahab an-Nifisi to discuss means of strengthening the economic relations and to reformulate the 1964 economic and technical cooperation agreement to render it commensurate with future plans. Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi will meet with his Kuwaiti counterpart tomorrow to discuss bilateral and Arab issues. Specialized technical committees in the fields of oil, electricity and water will also meet to discuss cooperation in these fields on a developed level.

This evening Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali met with Kuwaiti Commerce and Industry Minister an-Nifisi and discussed with him the means of developing bilateral economic relations in the interest of the two countries.

Meeting With Heir Apparent

JN161800Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May--Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, Kuwait's heir apparent and prime minister, received at As-Sif Palace today Iraqi RCC member and Interior Minister 'Izzat Ibrahim and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, Mr Ibrahim conveyed President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr's greetings, and those of RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn, to Shaykh al-'Abdallah. He also presented the prime minister with a souvenir representing the ancient Mesopotamian civilization.

V. 17 May 78

C 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad, minister of the interior; 'Abd al-Wahab an-Naifisi, minister of trade; and Iraq's Ambassador to Kuwait Thami ar-Razzaq.

SAUDI ARABIA

QATAR FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR BRIEF VISIT

LD151152Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 15 May--Qatar Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani arrived in Riyadh this morning on a short visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of the Riyadh area, and by a number of senior officials.

Leaves Riyadh

LD162015Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh--Qatar Foreign Minister Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani left Riyadh this evening at the end of his 2-day visit to the Kingdom, during which he conferred with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and crown prince.

UAE

INFORMATION MINISTER, EGYPTIAN ENVOY DISCUSS COOPERATION

JN151428Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 May 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 May--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid, UAE minister of information and culture, met today with Salah 'Izzat, Egyptian ambassador to the UAE. Following the meeting, the ambassador stated that relations in the field of information were discussed. He added that it was agreed to establish cooperation between the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY and MENA for the welfare of the two countries. The two sides also discussed their co-operation in the fields of journalism, television and exchange of films.

PDRY

USSR OFFICIAL ADDRESSES ARTISTIC GATHERING IN PDRY

LD151730Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Comrade [name indistinct], member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of Kazakhstan and member of the Supreme Soviet, has hailed Yemeni-Soviet relations and the transformations effected by the workers and toiling masses of democratic Yemen in the various aspects of social life, and particularly their activities for the establishment of the brand new party, the consolidation of democracy and the development of the national economy. Speaking yesterday evening at the artistic soiree organized by the Yemeni-Soviet Friendship Society on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the glorious May uprising, he emphasized his delegation's appreciation of the consolidation of friendship between the Soviet Union and democratic Yemen in the course of the anti-imperialist struggle for Social and peaceful progress.

Brother Qasim Daud, member of the Yemeni-Soviet Friendship Society and member of the United Political Organization-National Front [UPONF] delivered a speech for the Third Governorate in which he praised the relations between the two friendly countries and hailed the role played by the Yemeni-Soviet Friendship Society in the exchange of artistic and cultural visits and missions between the two friendly peoples. A troupe of artists from Kazakhstan took part in the soiree.

The Soviet delegation yesterday visited a number of establishments in the southern province of the Third Governorate, where it reviewed the progressive construction work of the workers of the governorate in agriculture and industry. The delegation also met Brother Abdallah Muhammad al-Junaydi, chairman of the executive council of the local people's council of the governorate and governor of the Third Governorate, and exchanged views on issues relating to friendly relations between the two friendly countries and peoples.

YAR ENVOY DELIVERS LETTER TO COUNCIL CHAIRMAN RUBAYYI'

JN161702Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 16 May--Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, chairman of the PDY Presidential Council, today received a letter from Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the Yemen Arab Republic, dealing with the future of relations between the two countries.

The letter was delivered to Mr 'Ali by YAR Minister of State 'Abdallah al-Humram. Al-Humram arrived in Aden today on a short visit, after which he returned to his country.

YAR

KUWAIT AS-SIYASAH REPORTS REBELLION IN YAR

TA170729Y Paris AFP in English 0716 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (AFP)--The daily AS-SIYASAH here today reported a rebellion involving 5,000 troops had broken out in North Yemen under the leadership of Revolutionary Council commander Colonel Abdallah 'Abd al-Alim.

The outbreak could escalate and threaten neighbouring countries, the paper said.

Colonel 'Abd al-'Alim was said to have taken refuge with his troops in the Taz Ga Hajariah region, in southern North Yemen, when he felt his position was being threatened.

AS-SIYASAH added that military preparations underway in the North Yemen capital indicated that an early attempt was going to be made to put down the rebellion.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES U.S. CHARGE, SOMALI AMBASSADOR

JN161418Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received in his office this morning the U.S. charge d'affaires in San'a'. During the two meetings, a discussion was held on mutual relations.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT PRAISES U.S. SENATE DECISION

NC161425Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--In a statement today President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat expressed appreciation of the U.S. Senate's stand on the aircraft sale to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

President as-Sadat said that this stand on the part of the U.S. Senate strengthens the confidence in the United States and in the vital role it can play in supporting the peace efforts.

President as-Sadat said that the real value of the deal does not lie in the number of aircraft or their type, but in the fact that for the first time the Arab world has succeeded in overcoming a situation in which the special relationship between the United States and Israel stood as an impediment to the Arabs' obtaining the weapons necessary to defend their security.

The following is the text of President as-Sadat's statement, released through the press secretariat of the presidency, on the U.S. Senate's approval yesterday of the aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia:

I followed with interest the discussions which took place in the U.S. Senate yesterday. I believe that congress' rejection of the attempts to block the aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia, despite the efforts exerted by Israel and its supporters, proves that President Carter's policy, which aims at contributing to finding a just and permanent solution to the Middle East problem, is being supported by the American people.

The U.S. Senate's stand also proves that the United States and President Carter stand by their promises and affirm their determination to fulfill them. I wish to express my appreciation for this stand, which strengthens the confidence in the United States and in the vital role it can play in supporting the peace efforts.

I am confident that the aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia would not have come through were it not for the Egyptian initiative which strengthened the Arab position and convinced the U.S. and world public opinion of the true desire of the Arabs to achieve a permanent and comprehensive peace.

Whereas domestic conditions in the United States have dictated that the arms sale to Egypt and Saudi Arabia be linked to supplying aircraft to Israel as well, the world is increasingly being convinced that the Arab states are arming themselves to defend their territories occupied by Israel while the Begin government is standing before the whole world exposing its intransigence, which is blocking the peace efforts.

Needless to say, the real value of the deal does not lie in the number of aircraft or their type, but in the fact that for the first time the Arab world has succeeded in overcoming a situation in which the special relationship between the United States and Israel stood as an impediment to Arabs obtaining the weapons necessary to achieve their security. Moreover, the deal, in my opinion, represents a new and positive step in the course of Egyptian-U.S. relations.

The U.S. decision affirms the readiness of the U.S. Government to play the role of a full partner in the efforts toward a settlement in the Middle East.

V. 17 May 78

D 2

EGYPT

It also affirms that the United States adheres to the principles and ideals upheld by President Carter--principles and ideals which, I am sure, will continue to be reflected in his sincere efforts to cooperate with us for a settlement of the Middle East dispute on the basis of right and justice.

Sends Telegram to Carter

NC161959Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Telegram sent by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to U.S. President Jimmy Carter on the U.S. Senate vote on the planes deal]

[Text] Cairo, 19 May--My dear friend: I have received with satisfaction the news of the U.S. Senate's agreement to supply our people with U.S. arms. This decision is regarded as a decisive victory for the noble principles and the sublime values which you represent. Your Excellency the President, and as a confirmation of the policy pursued by your wise government in increasing the defense capabilities of the peoples who believe in their right to lead a free and dignified life.

On this occasion I take pleasure in expressing to Your Excellency my extreme appreciation of your distinguished efforts to achieve a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. I am confident that in view of your sagacity, clear vision and deep understanding of the changes taking place in our contemporary world, you are capable of moving peace forward in our area in a positive and efficacious manner so that the efforts which are being exerted will bear the desired fruit.

Dear President, please accept my warmest greetings and sincerest wishes for good health, happiness and success for you personally and for lasting advancement and prosperity of your friendly people.

Cairo Press Comments

NC17080GY Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 17 May 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the U.S. Senate's approval of the aircraft deal with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel, the newspaper AL-AHRAM expresses the opinion that this decision is a practical confirmation of the beginning of a real change in the U.S. position on the Middle East crisis. The paper points out that yesterday's decision will be the subject of a fierce campaign by Zionist circles. The decision, however, confirms the new fact that the U.S. commitment to Israel's security and defense cannot be at the expense of the real U.S. interests in the area and U.S.-Arab relations.

The paper draws attention to the fact that the aircraft deal is not the end of the line but is a genuine beginning of the responsible U.S. policy that is required to rescue peace from all the adventurers who have up to this moment been standing as an obstacle in the face of all world public opinion, which is calling for a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis.

Concluding its article, the paper affirms that the satisfaction with which the recent U.S. decision was received is equal to the hopes being pinned on the U.S. administration to move forward in its efforts to promote a settlement and to play its desired role toward all peoples of the region. There can be no peace, security or stability as long as the occupation continues, and there can be no justice as long as the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are not recognized. This is the crux of the problem.

The newspaper AL-AKHBAR comments on Moscow's attitude to the U.S. Senate decision. The paper says: Moscow is very angry with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United States and its government. Radio Moscow yesterday was gripped by fever and began to broadcast gibberish because the U.S. Senate approved the aircraft deal to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The paper adds: It is not unusual for Moscow to be gripped by this feverish anger and for Radio Moscow to be gripped by fever and delirium because the approval of the aircraft deal, especially with regard to Egypt, is considered the death blow to the policy of arms monopoly which Moscow wanted to impose on Egypt. This policy is known and understood. Ever since we removed the Soviet experts, cleansed ourselves of all the effects of subservience to the Soviets, and ejected the principle of the establishment of bases on our territory and in our seas, the Soviet Union has withheld arms from us and has adopted a policy of monopoly in this sphere. Moscow thought that by such monopoly it could control and dominate us. However, we destroyed this monopoly by our decision to diversify the sources of weapons. This is what has alarmed Moscow.

The paper points out that Moscow has done everything to close all the doors on the diversification of the sources of arms, but it has failed. It has been gripped by alarm once again because we succeeded in our plan to diversify our sources of weapons and because our success was greater than we and everyone else had expected.

AL-AKHBAR says that when we requested the aircraft from the United States, the primary goal of our request was not just to get these planes, although we are in dire need of them to form the backbone of our armament and defense. We really wanted this deal as a symbol of U.S. recognition that we have the right, like any other state, to secure weapons for our legitimate defense needs. The United States had up to now recognized this right for Israel but not for Egypt. This deal, in fact, has more political than military value. Moreover, it opens a new door for the diversification of the sources of weapons to Egypt. This is what is behind the feverish anger which gripped Radio Moscow yesterday.

The paper adds: Radio Moscow yesterday broadcast a commentary entitled: "Behind the Scenes of the Package Deal." We do not deny the right of Radio Moscow to broadcast whatever commentaries and statements it wants. We are confident that all the people are fully aware of the value and purpose of what Radio Moscow says. But we had to pity Radio Moscow for yesterday's commentary because it is not a rational commentary but one reflecting delirium.

The paper refers to Radio Moscow's remark that the aircraft deal will open the way to a new era of arms race in the Middle East, and that the deal is a bad omen because it creates more obstacles in the way of a comprehensive settlement and a solution to the Palestinian issue. Is there any example more eloquent to prove this delirium than this banal contradiction?

V. 17 May 78

D 4

EGYPT

MUBARAK COMMENTS ON VISITS TO RIYADH, AMMAN

NC161740Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 16 May--Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has stated that the visits he made to Saudi Arabia and Jordan in the last 48 hours were part of the continuing consultations being held for the purpose of coordinating positions between Egypt and each of the two countries on the Middle East issue. In addition, some important matters of interest to the two countries and Egypt's bilateral relations with these two states were discussed.

The vice president said that there are continuous contacts between Egypt and these two states, just as there are between Egypt and the moderate and understanding Arab states, but some situations require such visits to be made.

The vice president added: The primary goal of my visit to Saudi Arabia was to discuss the U.S. arms deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia and to discuss what could have been done had congress rejected the deal. However, God be praised, the deal has been passed and U.S. President Carter and the U.S. administration have exerted tremendous efforts in this area.

Husni Mubarak said: However, topic number two, which I have discussed with Saudi Crown Prince His Royal Highness Amir Fahd and the other Saudi leaders, dealt with the efforts now being exerted to accelerate the peace process in the Middle East. We have also discussed bilateral relations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia and a number of bilateral and important matters of interest to the two countries.

Husni Mubarak added: Concerning my discussions with King Husayn of Jordan, these discussions fall within the context of continuing consultations with Jordan. The steps now being taken, the present positions with regard to the Middle East issue and the efforts which are being exerted to move the peace process forward were also discussed.

MENA has learned that the discussions between Husni Mubarak and Amir Fahd were largely consultations on the Middle East issue, and an exchange of views took place between Egypt and Saudi Arabia on moving the peace process forward in the area. The views of Egypt and Saudi Arabia were identical at these discussions. The discussions have confirmed that, as always, the Saudi side adheres to its principled positions on the issue.

MENA has also learned that the subjects of Arab solidarity and the convening of an Arab summit conference were discussed by King Husayn and Husni Mubarak.

FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL MEETS U.S.. ZAIRIAN ENVOYS

Meets With Eilts

NC161410Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--The United States today informed Egypt of the U.S. Senate's approval of the request by the U.S. President to supply military aircraft to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel. This came during a meeting held at noon today between Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts. The U.S. ambassador officially informed Foreign Minister Kamil of the decision adopted early this morning by the U.S. Senate.

Following the 30-minute meeting, Foreign Minister Kamil told newsmen: We are, of course, pleased with the U.S. Senate's approval of the aircraft deal. He said: This approval proves that we can trust the United States. It also indicates that the United States recognizes that we have the right, like any other state, to obtain weapons for legitimate self-defense. It also shows that the United States has begun to pursue a balanced policy.

Foreign Minister Kamil added: This will encourage us to pursue the efforts to achieve a peaceful and just settlement in the Middle East. It also affirms the good intentions of the United States toward the peace efforts and the positive role it is playing toward achieving this settlement.

U.S. Ambassador Eilts said that he informed the Egyptian foreign minister of the U.S. Senate's approval of the deal and that the minister expressed to him Egypt's appreciation for this stand.

In answer to a question on Egyptian-U.S. relations, the U.S. ambassador described these relations as good. He said the step taken by the U.S. Senate in approving the arms deal will strengthen these good relations. In answer to another question, the ambassador denied that there are strings attached to this deal.

Meets Zairian Ambassador

NC161533Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today received the Zairian ambassador to Egypt at the latter's request.

Following the meeting, the ambassador said that he briefed Foreign Minister Kamil on the situation in Zaire, particularly on what is going on in the province of Shaba. The ambassador said that Egypt is a friendly African state and that President as-Sadat attaches importance to the security, independence and territorial integrity of Zaire and all other African states.

SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 1-DAY VISIT

NC161605Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1516 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre arrived today in Cairo from Mogadiscio on a 1-day visit to Cairo. The Somali minister was met at Cairo airport by Ambassador Ahmad 'Uthman, Egyptian Foreign Ministry under secretary. Abdurahman Barre will leave Cairo for New York tomorrow to attend the UN extraordinary session on disarmament.

ARAB LABOR ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN DEPORTED

NC161521Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1438 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--It has been decided to deport At-Tayyib al-Hudayri, chairman of the Arab labor organization, for carrying out activities incompatible with the nature of his work in the organization. The Egyptian authorities conveyed their decision to the Arab League today.

At-Tayyib al-Hudayri, an Algerian, has been chairman of the Arab labor organization for 4 years.

PUBLIC PROSECUTOR INTERROGATES LEFTIST DEPUTY

NC162245Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2231 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 16 May--A deputy belonging to the Leftist Party, well known for adopting and promoting communism, this evening tried to start a demonstration in a quarter of Alexandria city. He shouted some slogans endangering national unity and social peace, thus ignoring the basic principles for which the people voted in a referendum in February 1977.

The same deputy had played a well-known role in instigating citizens to demonstrate and destroy and sabotage installations on 18 and 19 January 1977. The public prosecutor interrogated the deputy concerning the attempt to hold a demonstration today.

AL-AHRAM: AS-SADAT NY TIMES INTERVIEW WAS WARNING

NC130758Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 13 May 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The Cairo papers point out that the recent statements by Israeli officials on withdrawal from the occupied West Bank cannot contribute to the achievement of just and lasting peace in the Middle East but indicate the dangerous course which the Israeli leaders are taking.

Writing on this subject, AL-AHRAM says in its commentary today that when Menahem Begin announces that the present Israeli generation cannot withdraw from the occupied West Bank, when Moshe Dayan states that Israel is ready to wage a new war unless Egypt changes its positions, when the Israeli chief of staff affirms that the army cannot guarantee Israel's existence and independence unless Israel retains the West Bank of the Jordan, and when Israel continues to occupy the territory of southern Lebanon, all this clearly means one thing: The Israeli leaders will continue to occupy Arab territory, reject UN resolutions, defy world public opinion, fulfill their old legends about the promised land of Israel and achieve peace according to their own concepts.

Therefore, President as-Sadat's recent interview with the New York TIMES was a genuine warning to Israel not to waste the peace opportunity. The October war will not be the last if Israel does not share in the responsibility of establishing peace. Egypt cannot accept such logic as long as Israel has not yet understood the peace initiative.

Concluding its commentary, AL-AHRAM affirms that through its peace initiative Egypt has offered practical solutions to save the area from the dangers of destruction. Israel now must prove to the entire world in a practical manner that it truly wants a just and honorable peace for all. Will Begin understand this lesson?

AL-AHRAM DISCUSSES ATTITUDE TOWARD ARAB SOLIDARITY

LD122015Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 10 May 78 pp 1, 3 ID

[Chief Editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal article: "The Concept of Arab Solidarity"]

[Text] What does the call for Arab solidarity mean? Does it mean calling on the Arab political leaderships to agree on everything and not to differ among themselves on any matter affecting the Arab future as a whole?

If this is the concept of Arab solidarity, then it means that we will never be able to achieve such solidarity for several reasons: First, because no regime of any Arab country can be a trustee over the regime of another Arab country, and no regime can have a say in the manner another regime deals with problems in the Arab arena; second, because a number of Arab regimes place their party interest above the national interest and view every problem only through the framework of the party whose primary interest is to remain in office and nothing else.

In view of this fact, which is common knowledge to all, any call for Arab solidarity must realize the reality of Arab politics, the forces influencing them, and the fact that some people say one thing publicly and do the contrary secretly.

In the circumstances, therefore, Arab solidarity should mean protecting the Arabs themselves from their own differences of view and disagreements over dealing with problems facing them. In other words, differences should not mean that the Arabs must fight one another or resort to terror in order to settle such differences. What is required then is that the Arabs, despite the differences in views, should act concertedly with a spirit of brotherhood and common destiny, and not of party hostility and selfish interests.

The honorable mission President Ja'far Numayri is carrying out at present is the best evidence of the state of Arab affairs at the present stage.

Egypt has unconditionally welcomed the call for Arab solidarity and showed its readiness to attend an Arab summit meeting at any time and in any place. This is because Egypt does not act covertly; it is honest with itself as well as with others. It has the courage to act, to move and to face up to things. It finds no embarrassment in meeting with those who disagree with it because it believes in what it is doing, acts on the basis of Arab solidarity, has nothing to conceal, and its policy is a self-evident answer to all the accusations leveled against it by those who are biased.

As for the Syrian Ba'th Party, it has styled itself the trustee of the Arab nation and views Arab solidarity as a means only serving the party and no one else. Therefore, this party has put forth strange and ridiculous conditions for attending the Arab summit.

Had the Syrian Arab Ba'th Party any courage and self-confidence and if it really believed that it is right, then it would have immediately agreed to attend the conference and would have put its arguments and views clearly and honestly. Instead, this party is avoiding the conference and placing obstacles in its path because it knows well that the conference will expose the facts about its plans and policies to Arab public opinion.

The Syrian Ba'th is afraid of steadfastness and confrontation, whether on the negotiating table or on the battleground. It has avoided attending the summit conference just as it avoided confronting the Israeli forces that invaded southern Lebanon.

The negotiating table will expose its political outbiddings and the battle ground will show the truth behind its presence in Lebanon.

The strange thing in the matter is that the Syrian Ba'th offers no alternatives; all its requests, moves and statements are negative. It raises the slogan of rejection but offers no substitute; it raises the slogan of confrontation then it "vanishes" at the first test of confrontation. Nevertheless, it tries to fool everybody by saying that it alone will decide the place and date of the battle.

I already anticipated what happened at President Mumayri's visit to Damascus. The man [Mumayri] wants to satisfy his conscience; therefore, he is continuing his tour in the hope that some Arab regimes will place the national interests above party and personal interests. We wish him success and we would like him at the end of this mission to tell Arab public opinion frankly what the result of this mission was. We would like him to declare what he heard in every capital and to specify the points of difference. We have no wish to embarrass him, but we would like him to make public what he heard and leave it to Arab public opinion to judge who wants Arab solidarity and who is evading it.

AL-AHRAM DISCUSSES ARAB ECONOMIC AID TO EGYPT

LD161758Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 May 78 p 5 LD

[Ibrahim Nafi' article]

[Text] I have drawn two important conclusions from my meetings in Kuwait with Saudi Finance Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and Kuwait Finance Minister 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi, the representatives of the two principal states in the gulf authority which has been formed to finance development in Egypt.

First, that the authority is not prepared to increase its capital in order to give Egypt cash loans or to finance the importation of goods--whether investment goods or foodstuffs --after Egypt last year used most of the authority's capital to repay short term debts and to import these kinds of goods.

Second, the authority does not preclude increasing its capital on the condition that the new increase should be devoted to financing projects specified in the development plan on the grounds that this is the principal objective of establishing the authority.

It was obvious through my talks that the two ministers were in agreement on this point, although one of them spoke gently, quietly and provided the appropriate answers, while the other acted and spoke as if aware of the questions that were going to be put to him. I have learned since that the two ministers said the same thing to World Bank President Robert McNamara, to Chase Manhattan Bank President David Rockefeller, and to the director of IMF Middle East operations, 'Abd ash-Shakur ash-Sha'lan, when they went to the Arab brothers to explain to them the Egyptian economic and financial situation and Egypt's needs for the coming 3 years.

The conclusions drawn by the two senior officials responsible for managing Arab financial affairs call for a wide and deep discussion. Such discussion and dialog must be carried out in light of two basic objectives, that we are partners in destiny and that we are partners in the economic interests in the widest sense of the word.

On this basis we can begin discussion of the conclusions reached by the Saudi and Kuwaiti finance ministers:

1. Egypt has indeed utilized most of the loans provided by the gulf authority. These total \$2 billion to be repaid over 7 years, after the lapse of a 3-year grace period. The utilization was carried out in accordance with the conditions laid down by the authority and for the purposes specified by it, namely the repayment of short-term loans obtained by Egyptian banks and for which exorbitant interest was being paid. Part of the loans was used for financing production goods that contribute to boosting Egyptian production while another part was used for financing imports of some consumer goods necessary for the local market.

Such proper utilization of the loans was bound to have a beneficial effect on improving the Egyptian balance of payments. This is proved by the figures of the 1977 plan. In other words, the loans provided by the gulf authority--despite the objection to using some of the loans for the importation of foodstuffs--have been used correctly, which means that the gulf authority had indeed contributed to the Egyptian plan for economic, financial and social reform.

2. The IMF and World Bank reports stress that Egypt is in need of cash liquidity or funds to finance the importation of goods. These reports estimate Egypt's need for cash liquidity at more than \$20 billion annually for a period of 3 years.

3. Egypt's policy of financing the development plan is summed up as follows:

The development plan for the current year, in which the total investments are estimated at 2.2 billion pounds, has been fully covered through both local financing and foreign financing, which is represented in foreign loans already given to Egypt. This is in addition to 300 million pounds of investments in the Egyptian public sector.

The international consultative body which has been set up in order to help develop Egypt--which includes international organizations, the developed states, some of the Arab countries, and Arab development funds--has provided or at least pledged to provide full financing for Egypt's 5-year development plan, particularly since the World Bank has approved the outlines of this plan and the projects it provides for the development of the basic sectors of the Egyptian economy.

Like all the developing countries, Egypt is facing the problem of being unable to absorb investment loans rapidly, either because of slowness in implementation or the lack of local currency that complements the foreign currency necessary for projects, or because of executive and legislative procedures, whether in the country giving the loan or in Egypt.

4. Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi must agree with me that the conditions for the loans granted by the gulf authority are absolutely unsuitable for financing investment projects of development plans, including such basic projects as may be necessary for the Egyptian national economy. As we have already said, the loans given by the authority provide for only a 3-year grace period, after which the loan is repayable over 6 years.

It is a known fact that Egypt obtains easy-term loans for development from U.S. aid, from the World Bank, from Arab development funds and from the developed countries, with repayment periods ranging from 25 to 40 years at a low interest rate and a grace period ranging between 5 and 10 years.

As Minister of Economy and Economic Cooperation Dr Hamid as-Sayih told me, what Egypt needs at present is for the gulf authority to continue supporting the Egyptian balance of payments, which in turn would bolster Egypt economically and financially and enable it in fact to solve its problems and shorten the road to the desired economic advance which was no doubt the primary objective of setting up the authority.

Dr as-Sayih said: What we need is cash liquidity necessary for importing the goods required for our factories in order to renovate them and operate them at maximum production efficiency, which would be of great benefit for the Egyptian economy.

Also we must preclude importing foodstuffs [with such money] if this annoys them.

The minister of economy added: Loans for projects are adequately available. What we hope for is to be able to absorb them rapidly. We cannot accept loans for projects simply to add them to our books of already existing loans.

The advanced countries understand that supporting the Egyptian balance of payments will contribute to ending Egypt's economic problems. The best evidence to this is that the United States annually allocates \$600 million of its total aid to commodity loans as well as to foodstuff aid, and that West Germany allocates half its aid to the balance of payments. The same thing applies to France and Japan.

Concluding, Dr as-Sayih said: Egypt is carrying out a genuine reform of its economic course in accordance with a strategy that will be explained to the international consultative body next month. Its financial and economic negotiations with the IMF have entered the final stages prior to the signing of a 3-year agreement instead of the annual agreement that used to be signed by both sides. Egypt will then become the fourth country with which the IMF will sign such a long term agreement, which indeed confirms the IMF's confidence that Egypt is following the right course of reform. There is no doubt that my colleagues the Arab ministers will understand this and will continue their discussions. Also, I have no doubt that they will contribute with everything that would bolster the Egyptian economy, whether on the collective or bilateral level or through the meetings of the consultative body in Paris next month.

Thus the Egyptian minister of economy has defined the requirements of the coming stage should the sisterly oil states really wish to support the Egyptian economy and achieve the aim of raising the living standard of the Egyptian people. It is my opinion that during our future discussions we must avoid talking about how much Egypt has paid and how much its sacrifices are worth because they cannot be calculated in terms of money. Therefore, there should be no question of addition and subtraction, which some of the Arab officials love to do, when it comes to talking about aid given to Egypt. I believe that the consensus of opinion is that relations between us and the Arab brothers will continue in all fields as long as there is Arab blood in our veins. Those who advocate isolation or encourage estrangement between the Arab countries are bound to fail.

A final word: We are partners in destiny as well as in economic interests. No one should imagine that he is immune to whatever may befall another Arab country, whether during peace or war.

HAYKAL DISCUSSES VARYING CONCEPTS OF PEACE

JN170830 [Editorial report JN] Ammar AR-RA'Y Arabic on 17 May carries on page eight the 2,500-word fourth article in a series by former AL-AHRAM Chief Editor Muhammad Husanayn Haykal. The article is entitled: "The Lost Dialog: The Peace Concepts as Seen by Begin, Dayan and Gur."

Haykal discusses in this article how the dialog between the Arabs and Israel was lost because of a lack of communication, because of varying values and because of differing attitudes. He concentrates in this article on the varying concepts of peace between the Arabs and Israel. He says that these concepts are some of the reasons for the lost dialog.

On the Arab side he lists four concepts of peace: The first concept is that peace is impossible because the struggle is over a piece of land which has no room for both Palestinians and Israelis. Therefore, the way to peace is deadlocked and all efforts toward peace will not succeed and are mere illusions. What is peculiar is that the Israelis have the same concept, and this is the reason for the Israeli rejection of the establishment of a Palestinian state and a dialog with the PLO.

The second Arab concept of peace tries to evade the entire issue of peace. This concept is held by the Arab support states such as Saudi Arabia and is based on the assumption that the Arab frontline states are the ones that should act regarding peace because the matter involves them directly. This concept of peace is also based on the assumption that any solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute should take into consideration the containment of the radical trend in the Arab world.

The third concept is that adopted by Syria. This is based on the assumption that peace means the end of the state of war.

The fourth concept is that held by Egypt and is based on the assumption that peace means the end of the state of war, the adoption of security arrangements and the normalization of relations.

Haykal concludes that there is no unified Arab concept of peace and that Israel will not agree to conclude peace with the Arabs until the Arabs agree on what kind of peace they want.

Haykal then goes on to discuss the Israeli concept of peace. This concept of peace rejects the Syrian and Egyptian concepts, because, as Begin explained it, Israel wants a genuine peace. Peace for Israel is a risk which Israel cannot take unless the consequences are not detrimental. Peace, as Begin explained, means the land of Israel and the security of its people. Begin believes that the termination of the state of war does not mean peace because fighting can be resumed at any time.

Therefore, Haykal explains, the Israeli concept of peace is based on nonrelinquishment of Arab lands, no acceptance of a Palestinian state anywhere in Palestine, and the idea that Israel should get the maximum in any peace arrangement and the Arabs in return should wait for the results. In other words, Israel wants what it wants immediately in a whole package, and the Arabs will get what they want in return in installments over a long term. Israel is not in a hurry and can wait 25-30 years for peace to come. This would be an experimental period in which our intentions could be tested. The Israeli concept of peace is also based on maintaining Israeli military superiority over the Arabs. Israel even rejects the U.S. plan for peace and upholds its own.

In conclusion, Haykal calls on the Arabs to arrive at a unified peace concept so that the dialog might be disrupted.

U.S. DIRECTIVE ON OIL PROSPECTING NOTED

NC170707Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0624 GMT 17 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 17 May--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports today that the U.S. Government has requested the U.S. companies to stop any oil prospecting operation they may be engaged in in the occupied Arab territories on the grounds that such operations are illegal and constitute a violation of international treaties and charters.

V. 17 May 78

I R A Q

E 1

ICATU DENOUNCES EGYPT'S DEPORTATION OF ITS CHAIRMAN

JN162100Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 May--The International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU], has denounced the Egyptian regime's decision to deport At-Tayyib al-Hudayri, chairman of the Arab labor organization, from Cairo. The ICATU condemned the Egyptian regime for continuing its repressive measures against all those who oppose the conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

In a statement to INA, 'Ali al-Mawla, ICATU's secretary general, stated that the deportation decision only reaffirms the policy of Egypt's ruler, Anwar as-Sadat, to isolate Egypt from the Arab world and to continue his capitulationist and defeatist course, which is hostile to the Arab nation's objectives.

IRAQI OIL MINISTER LEAVES FOR MOSCOW MEETINGS

JN170840Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, left for Moscow this morning to attend the meetings of the eighth session of the joint Iraqi-Soviet committee for economic and technical cooperation. This session is scheduled to begin in Moscow today.

'Abd al-Karim said that he will discuss with Soviet officials the means to develop the horizons of cooperation in the economic and technical spheres in the light of existing relations between the two friendly countries.

INA, GNA OPEN DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS LINK

JN131010Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 13 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 May--A direct line began operation this morning between the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY [INA] and the GULF NEWS AGENCY [GNA] for direct and regular 24-hour transmission and reception between the two agencies. INA will send its reports to GNA over this line.

It should be recalled that INA is a member of the GNA in which the news agencies of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain also participate.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD

JN151023Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0912 GMT 15 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May--Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn received at his office at the National Council Building this morning Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad Anatoliy Barkovskiy. The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin.

BRIEFS

PEACE COUNCIL DELEGATION--Baghdad, 16 May--A delegation of the National Council for Peace and Solidarity in Iraq left for Switzerland today to participate in the world conference against racism and racial discrimination, which will begin in Basel on Thursday. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 May 78 JN]

EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT CONCLUDES VISIT

JN161119Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak left Amman this morning following a 1-day visit to Jordan, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn and conveyed to him a message from President Anwar as-Sadat. Mubarak also had talks with His Majesty King Husayn and high-ranking Jordanian officials on common Arab issues.

Mubarak was seen off at the airport by the prime minister, the president of the National Consultative Council, the chief of the royal court, the minister of the court, a number of ministers, a number of high-ranking officials, the dean of the diplomatic corps and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN RETURNS FROM MOROCCO

JN161730Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, Miss Nur Halaby [king's bride-to-be] and Her Highness Princess Basmah received His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Her Highness Princess Tharwat and Her Highness Princess 'Alyah this evening upon their return to the homeland after a 2-week visit to Fez.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was also received by the prime minister, His Excellency Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court and senior officials.

SYRIAN TRANSPORT MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN

JN161530Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1436 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Ar-Ramtha, 16 May--Dr Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of transport, arrived in Amman today to attend the periodic meetings of the General Assembly of the Jordanian-Syrian Overland Transport Company, which will open in Amman today. The meetings will last for 2 days.

The Syrian minister will also hold talks with the minister of transport on strengthening existing cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of transport.

In a statement he made upon his arrival, Dr Yasin stressed that they are working according to the directives of His Majesty King Husayn and his brother, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, and in response to the recommendations of the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee, to achieve greater cooperation and integration between Jordan and Syria in all fields, especially in the sphere of transport, and in implementing steps to strengthen transport cooperation.

KING HUSAYN TO WED AMERICAN NUR HALABY

JN161535Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Here is a statement issued by the Royal Hashemite Court:

The Royal Hashemite Court is happy to announce to our dear citizens and the nation that His Majesty King Husayn has chosen Miss Nur, daughter of Mr Najeeb Halaby, to be his future wife. It has been agreed that the wedding and marriage rites will be held soon.

JORDANIAN MILITARY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR VIENNA

JN131631Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 13 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 13 May--Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces, left Amman today for Vienna at the head of a military delegation slated to visit Austria for several days at the invitation of the Austrian defense minister.

He was seen off at the airport by the chief of staff, his assistant for operation and planning, the commander of the air forces and a number of high-ranking officers.

JORDAN TIMES NOTES IMPORTANCE OF PLANES DEAL APPROVAL

JN170757Y Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 May 78 p 2 JN

[Editorial: "The Senate Makes History"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate approval of the package sale of American military planes to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia ranks in importance with President as-Sadat's throwing the Russians out of Egypt in 1972. This is for three reasons.

First, the precedent that has been established of linking military sales to Israel with those to Arab states is the first tangible demonstration of the "evenhandedness" that the Arabs have been expecting from the United States for many years now. The fact that the Saudi Arabians received the most advanced interceptor jet available--and the same one that Israel has, the F-15--makes this fact more dramatic, but not more important. The importance lies in breaking the exclusivity that Israel had enjoyed in receiving advanced American weapons and according to Israel's self-stated needs only.

Second, the defeat of the so-called "Israeli lobby" on this Senate vote is of historic dimensions, and it proves, as we have often said, that the Israeli lobby in the United States is not as awesome as it is made out to be, but that its true strength can only be gauged by challenging it head-on. This is what President Carter did, and he won. It is significant that the pro-Israeli forces in the United States went all-out to defeat the package sale, and the intensity of their attacks was perhaps best demonstrated by the intemperate accusations of Connecticut's Senator Lowell Weicker and the equally undecorous charges of Mr Mark Siegel, the former White House aide who resigned in protest against the proposed plane sales. The wild accusations of these two men went beyond the realm of rational and acceptable political debate. But the pro-Israeli forces still lost in the end.

The third important factor is the behaviour of some of the Arabs in lobbying for the sale, particularly the Saudi Arabians and the Egyptians, who both came up with squads of senior lobbyists in Washington to quietly press their case. This was best illustrated by the last minute letter sent to President Carter from King Khalid. The Arabs--or at least some of them--are playing Israel's own game, and winning.

The combination of these three factors will have serious implications for the future course of war or peace in the Middle East. This is a development that the Arab world welcomes, though we still wonder why it didn't happen many years sooner.

V. 17 May 78

LEBANON

G 1

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS MAKES STATEMENT

NC161236Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has announced that the government is determined to shoulder its full responsibilities in all spheres and with all the ability and energy at its disposal. He added that the primary concern of the government will be to achieve comprehensive national detente in a manner which will enable the country to form, within a short period, a national unity government.

Asked his opinion of statements by certain people that the government's withdrawal of its resignation represents a victory for a certain faction over another, Prime Minister al-Huss replied: Victory is determined by the extent to which demands are met. The fact that the government withdrew its resignation does not constitute a response to the demands of any political faction. From this aspect, there was no victorious faction. However, if we look on this move as a way out of a political crisis which could have developed into something worse, then the victor in this respect is, most certainly, the Lebanese Government.

NATIONALIST, PROGRESSIVE FORCES CRITICIZE LEBANESE FRONT

JN162145Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2011 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 16 May--The Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist and Progressive forces has stated that Al-Huss's withdrawal of the resignation of his government has formally ended the ministerial crisis, but that the actual crisis of government persists.

In a statement issued following its meeting this evening, the council denied that all the parties to the conflict are to be held responsible for this crisis. The statement further declared that the Nationalist Movement had proposed a genuine solution to the crisis, consisting of a national balance to be adopted as the basis for reconciliation and the formation of a new government. However, the Lebanese Front persists in its attempt to impose its sectarian control over the country. The statement pointed out that the Lebanese Front is working for a new round of political escalation and a tense security situation that will enable it to hatch more of its conspiracies. The statement called on the authorities to adopt a cohesive stand formulated by local and Arab parties to prevent the continuation of the current imbalance of forces in the country.

On the other hand, the statement criticized General Erskine's statements in which he said that Security Council Resolution 425 contradicts the Cairo agreement. The statement said that the interpretation of the resolution does not fall within the jurisdiction of the UNIFIL commander. The statement stressed that all that pertains to the Cairo agreement is a matter of concern to the Lebanese authorities and the PLO only, and that there is no contradiction between Security Council Resolution 425 and the Cairo agreement.

The council reviewed the repressive measures which As-Sadat has decided to submit to a referendum. The statement said that all these measures have the purpose of liquidating all traces of democracy in Egypt and putting an end to all basic liberties by isolating Egyptian nationalist and progressive forces and depriving them of their basic rights as citizens. The council finds in these measures a sure proof of the isolation surrounding this regime.

The Lebanese Nationalist Movement stresses its solidarity with the nationalist and progressive forces in Egypt in their struggle against the course of capitulation and the conspiracy to repress democratic liberties that is currently being implemented in Egypt.

V. 17 May 78

G 2

LEBANON

PRESIDENT SARKIS, RIGHTIST LEADER PLAN TRIPS TO SYRIA

JN160806Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 16 May--It was stated here today that Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis will visit Damascus before the end of May for talks with President of the Syrian regime Hafiz al-Asad. The Lebanese dailies today report that this visit was the main topic Syrian envoy Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khuli discussed with President Sarkis yesterday.

The newspaper AS-SAFIR predicts that a Lebanese envoy will visit Damascus during this week to arrange for the Sarkis-al-Asad meeting. The paper points out that prime minister Dr Salim al-Huss might also make this visit.

Sham'un To Visit Damascus

JN161716Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1705 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 16 May--It was learned today that Camille Sham'un, leader of the rightist National Liberal Party, will visit Damascus in the next few days. Well-informed sources report that the visit, which comes in reply to a previous invitation from leader of the Syrian regime Hafiz al-Asad, might be made this Saturday. The sources add that during the visit Sham'un will discuss relations between the rightist front and the Syrian regime. He will also represent his party in the joint coordination committee which was formed 2 weeks ago between the Al-Asad regime and the rightist Phalangist Party.

UNIFIL COMMANDER ERSKINE ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC161203Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] UNIFIL commander General Erskine arrived in Beirut at 0930 today from Jerusalem. He will hold more consultations with Lebanese officials with the aim of facilitating the mission of the UN forces in the south. A source at UNIFIL headquarters has stated that General Erskine may ask the Lebanese authorities to explain the present controversy over the Cairo agreement now that it has transpired that the PLO is using it as pretext for aggression against the UN forces and continuous violation of the UN Security Council resolution.

General Erskine held two meetings after his arrival in Beirut. The first meeting was with officials at the UN regional office and the second with the truce supervision commission. At noon Erskine visited Colonel Salvan, former commander of the French contingent, at Hotel Dieu.

It is worth noting that some leaders of the Palestinian organizations and the leftist parties have launched a campaign against Erskine for stating that there is a contradiction between the UN Security Council resolution and the Cairo agreement.

AL-HUSS MEETS WITH ARAB DETERRENT FORCES COMMANDER

NC161150Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 May 78 NC

[Text] The prime minister this morning reviewed the security situation with the commander of the Arab deterrent forces, Lieutenant Colonel al-Khatib.

V. 17 May 78

G 3

LEBANON

During the 1-hour meeting, the commander of the Arab deterrent forces briefed the prime minister on the latest reports on the security situation in Lebanon.

After the meeting, Lieutenant Colonel al-Khatib said: It is natural at the beginning of this week for me to review with Prime Minister al-Huss the security situation throughout the country. Asked whether there is support for the idea of reinforcing the checkpoints of the Arab deterrent forces with Lebanese elements, the Arab deterrent forces commander said: Yes.

VOICE OF LEBANON: PALESTINIAN INFIGHTING CONTINUES

NC140908Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 14 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] It appears that the armed Palestinians have a plan for attacking the UNIFIL in the south. According to this plan, it was the turn of the Iranian forces yesterday when armed aliens and Palestinians opened fire on them. The Iranian forces strongly returned the fire. Until late last night, no information had been received on the results of the clash.

Meanwhile, according to information received from the south, a Fatah group had tried to arrest rejectionist elements stationed between Qal'at Shqif and An-Nabitiyah. Violent clashes ensued between the two sides 24 hours ago, in which 11 persons were killed and a number of others wounded. The Norwegian contingent found 16 bodies of Palestinian saboteurs near the Litani River yesterday. The Norwegian command emphasized that no fresh clashes had occurred between the Norwegian forces and the saboteurs. Therefore, these saboteurs must have been killed in the clashes among the Palestinians themselves.

INA: ISRAELI PLANES OVERFLY TYRE

JN161845Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 16 May--Zionist enemy planes overflew the coastal city of Tyre intermittently this afternoon, while enemy patrols raided the township of Tibnin and searched several of its houses before withdrawing to the axes they are occupying outside the township. Sounds of explosions and machinegun fire were heard last night on the Ma'rakah village axes, east of Tyre, in the western sector of southern Lebanon.

The INA correspondent in the area reported that the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon, present on the axes, fired warning shots during the night to prevent any infiltration in the direction of the southern areas still occupied by the Zionist enemy. The correspondent also stated that the tension which prevailed in the area following the attempt by the joint forces to enter the occupied areas and the action by UNIFIL to prevent this has ended as a result of contacts held between the leaders of the joint forces and UNIFIL. These contacts led to the withdrawal of the joint forces elements to their previous positions. The last of these meetings was that held today between General Cook, deputy commander of UNIFIL in southern Lebanon, and liaison officers of the joint forces.

INFORMATION MINISTER GRANTS INTERVIEW TO ARMY MAGAZINE

JN161525Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad has granted a comprehensive interview to the magazine JAYSH ASH-SHA'B, published today. The interview also appeared in the newspaper TISHRIN. The interview dealt with current Arab issues.

In reply to a question on the Arab situation on the 30th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, Mr Ahmad stated that the Arabs are currently facing a decisive choice. He said that no one will give the Arabs anything they are unable to achieve through their own strength. The Arabs, he said, will be able to achieve their goals if they build their own power and if their will is united to use this power in pursuit of their primary goal. The minister said that the battle with Zionism is a battle for survival but that Zionism attempts to portray it as a border dispute.

The minister said that any call for the restoration of Arab solidarity which is not based on a condemnation of As-Sadat's crime against Egypt and the Arab nation cannot truly be a call for Arab solidarity; it will only create a solidarity in the interest of the enemies of the Arabs and thus destroy the future of the Arabs.

In reply to a question on his excellency President Ja'far Numayri's visit to Damascus last week, the minister said: President Numayri came to Damascus at his own request to discuss the current Arab situation. In Damascus, President Numayri was given Syria's clear and pan-Arab stand, which is committed to supreme Arab interests. It is a position which stresses that Syria cannot take part in any summit meeting as long as the Cairo-Tel Aviv road remains open. To rebuild the bridges with the Arab nation which As-Sadat himself has destroyed, his policy must be condemned and the crime he committed against the Arab nation must be denounced.

In reply to a question on what some people are repeating that there are differences between the two Arab regions, Syria and Egypt, the minister said: Some people who do not want to see the real issues in the Arab region try to portray the current differences in the Arab homeland as Syrian-Egyptian differences. There are differences between Syria and the As-Sadat regime; Syria is unwavering in its determination to oppose As-Sadat's actions and his attempts to plunge the Arab nation into disaster. These differences, however, took place after As-Sadat deserted the Arab ranks, besmirched our sacred Arab goals and opposed the whole Arab nation.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION WELCOMED BY KHADDAM

JN141310Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 May 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received in his office this morning the delegation of the socialist bloc in the European Parliament under (Ludwig Mayer).

After he had welcomed the visiting delegation, Khaddam explained to them the current situation in the region, the new concepts in the Arab area and Syria's principled and firm position on them. He stressed that a just and lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved unless Israel withdraws from all occupied Arab territories and recognizes the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Khaddam added: We want a just and lasting peace based on the implementation of the UN resolution and we consider the United Nations to be a suitable forum for this. Khaddam then answered all questions posed by the delegation.

Received by President

JN151430Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 May 78 JN

[Text] At 1300 today President Hafiz al-Asad received the delegation of the socialist bloc in the European Parliament under (Ludwig Mayer). The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Assembly, and Dr Fu'ad (Dib), head of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

(Ludwig Mayer) thanked President al-Asad on behalf of the delegation for having received them and described the favorable impressions the delegation had formed during its visit to Syria. The discussion then revolved around the bases for a just peace in the Middle East and the sound concept of such a peace. President al-Asad explained to the members of the delegation that Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy is the main stumbling block in the way of achieving a just peace.

During the meeting, the parties emphasized the importance of direct contacts between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and other Arab socialist parties, and the European socialist parties. The discussion also revolved around the firm relations between the Arabs and Europe and also dealt with the influence of these relations on both sides.

Concludes Visit

JN151951Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 May 78 JN

[Text] The delegation of the socialist bloc in the European Parliament under (Ludwig Mayer) has ended a 4-day visit to Syria. In a statement to the SANA correspondent prior to his departure from Damascus this afternoon, (Mayer) expressed his pleasure at having been received by President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: The president stressed the fact that peace is vital for this part of the world. We sensed Syria's determination to maintain its good relations with the West European states.

The president's views and ours were identical on the question of relations between the Ba'th Party and the socialist bloc in the European Parliament. (Mayer) said that the socialist bloc in the European Parliament supports and backs the statement made by the EEC foreign ministers at the European Parliamentary conference. This statement calls for the establishment of peace in this region by implementing the UN General Assembly resolutions which call for recognition of the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination and to establish their homeland.

JORDANIAN SUPPLIES MINISTER SEEKS SYRIAN WHEAT

JN131632Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1524 GMT 13 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 13 May--Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian minister of supplies, arrived in Damascus today on a visit to Syria to hold talks with the Syrian supplies and internal trade minister on cooperation between the two countries in the supplies field. In a statement to the JNA correspondent in Damascus, Mr al-Qasim said that he will hold talks with Mr Muhammad Ghabbash, Syrian minister of supplies and internal trade, on the possibility of borrowing 16,000 tons of wheat from Syria.

ZANU LEADER ROBERT MUGABE ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN161355Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] Robert Mugabe, leader of the Zimbabwe African National Union, [ZANU] and co-leader of the Patriotic Front for the liberation of Zimbabwe, arrived in Damascus today at the head of a party delegation on a visit to Syria. The visit, which will last for several days, comes at the invitation of the National Command of the Ba'th Party.

Mr Mugabe will hold political talks with responsible comrades in the party and government. These talks will include current developments affecting the African liberation movements, particularly Zimbabwe's struggle against Ian Smith's racist authority, and the current situation in the Middle East. They will also discuss the continued Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and the connection between the racist movement in Africa and the racist-Zionist movement in occupied Palestine.

Mr Mugabe and his accompanying delegation will visit the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah, a victim of the imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation. The delegation will also see some of the marks of progress and development in Syria.

It will be recalled that the Ba'th party and ZANU have been connected by close ties of struggle since the beginning of the struggle against racism and Zionism in Zimbabwe.

Scores Zionism

JN161825Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1740 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus, 16 May--The delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU], headed by Robert Mugabe, today visited the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Mugabe described his impressions and said: The destruction which I saw exposes the Nazism of Zionism, which is causing suffering by its barbaric action.

Mugabe affirmed that the people of Zimbabwe support the Arab struggle, and particularly The Palestinian people's struggle to liberate their occupied land, regain their legitimate national rights and establish an independent state upon their soil. We are allies in the same cause. This is why I am here now, he added.

Mugabe concluded: We are waging a common struggle against Zionism, because Zionism is fighting alongside Ian Smith's racist regime. Zionism is a common enemy. Its existence constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security.

Holds Talks

JN162235Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 May 78 JN

[Text] A round of talks was held at National Command headquarters this evening between a delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party led by Comrade Dr Fawwaz Tayyar, National Command member and chief of the Foreign Relations Office, and the delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU] led by Robert Mugabe.

During this session, the two sides reviewed the world liberation movement and the struggle for liberation waged by the people against imperialism, Zionism and racism, and for their liberation and progress. Comrade Mugabe submitted a detailed report on the Rhodesian issue and its developments. He stressed the determination of the Zimbabwe people to continue their armed struggle, because it is the only means to achieve independence, ensure majority rule, liberate the Zimbabwe people from the rule of the racist minority and free the destiny of the country from the clutches of imperialism, Zionism and the racist regime in South Africa.

Mugabe then explained the U.S. and British attempts to impose a settlement of the Rhodesian issue which would guarantee the continued control of the racist minority and put an end to the revolution of the Zimbabwe people. Mugabe also stressed the unity of the struggle waged by the Arab people and the Zimbabwe people in that they are waging a joint struggle against the racist regimes in Rhodesia, South Africa and Israel, regimes linked by their racist nature and having the same aggressive objectives of colonialism, Zionism and imperialism. He also stressed the Zimbabwe people's support for the struggle waged by the Arab people to liberate all the occupied Arab territories, to guarantee the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to self-determination and to regain their territory. Mugabe stressed that the stand adopted by the separatists in Rhodesia, who collaborated with Ian Smith against the interests of the Zimbabwe people, is similar to the stand of some Arabs who collaborate with the Israeli enemy against the interests of the just struggle waged by the Arab people to liberate the occupied Arab territories and regain the Palestinian people's national rights.

Comrade Dr Fawwaz Tayyar outlined the justice of the struggle waged by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and by its revolution in Syria against the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies being concocted in the Arab area. As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem was one of its acts. He also outlined Syria's struggle to liberate all the occupied Arab territories and guarantee the Palestinian people's national rights. He also reaffirmed the stand of the (?party) in support of the Zimbabwe people's cause and its firm and principled support for their just struggle to bring down the white racist minority regime, guarantee majority rule and ensure the people's independence and progress.

BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM ROMANIA

JN121711Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] The Ba'th Party delegation under Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general, returned to Damascus this afternoon following a weeklong visit to Romania during which he met with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and gave him a verbal message from President Hafiz al-Asad.

BRIEFS

NEW INDONESIAN, ALBANIAN AMBASSADORS--Martono Kadri, Indonesian ambassador to Syria, today presented his credentials to President Hafiz al-Asad. The new Albanian ambassador, Sulejman Tomcini, also presented his credentials to the president as ambassador of the People's Republic of Albania to the Syrian Arab Republic. Both ceremonies were attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Mr Adib Muhim, presidential affairs minister. [Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 May 78 JN]

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B VIEWS ANNIVERSARY OF USURPATION OF PALESTINE

LD162153Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 11 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] As the anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine approaches, the Zionist entity remains a dagger plunged in the chest of the Arab nation, exhausting its resources and challenging it daily.

It is painful indeed that, after 30 years of steadfastness and struggle and four fierce wars that devoured thousands of Arab soldiers, certain Arab rulers should emerge to kowtow to the enemy and to place the initiative to liberate their land in the hands of the very state that created the Zionist entity as an advanced imperialist colonialist base to protect its interests in the area.

It is also painful that this anniversary should find the Arab world in a state of disruption unprecedented in its contemporary history. This world is divided among those who support the surrender line, whose symbol is As-Sadat, those who oppose it out of their sense of national responsibility and loyalty to the Arab cause--the symbol of the Arab nation's honor--and those who are silent, watching and pondering at a time when the situation is so clear that it needs no further watching and pondering.

The October war proved the ability of the Arab fighter to achieve victory when the political will is a true interpretation of the aspirations of the Arab masses. The war also proved that belief in victory has been and continues to be the sharpest weapon in battle and is capable of becoming a tremendous force of creative capability. Other weapons--planes, tanks and aircraft--come next in importance, in that anyone can obtain them for a price.

Therefore, some Arab rulers today want to impose defeat on their nation in a war in which their sons did not fight. This is impossible for a nation which, if it probes deeply into itself, searches its soul, and becomes aware of the dangers threatening its dignity and existence, is capable of rising up to strike a decisive blow.

Because the problems of freedom are indivisible, and in view of the similarity between the tragedies of the Palestinian people and Saharan people, revolutionary frankness makes it incumbent upon us to remind our Sudanese brothers, whose president was our guest yesterday, that there is another Arab people being slaughtered and killed by an Arab regime which has turned its country into an aggressive base against the African peoples and whose capital has opened to receive Zionist leaders in order to coordinate with them on matters relating to As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. This visit was a fatal blow to Arab solidarity, as a result of which Arab efforts are now being made to mend the rift it made and to check the disarray it caused in our ranks.

In any case, Algeria will remain loyal to the struggling Saharan people, represented by the POLISARIO Front, and to the Palestinian people. It will accept only what satisfies the Palestinian people through their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO. Algeria also adheres to the resolutions of the Tripoli and Algiers summit conferences of the front of steadfastness and confrontation, because it believes that real Arab solidarity must be based on the struggle whose aim should be the liberation of Palestine from Zionist occupation on the grounds that Israel is a colonialist phenomenon based on expansionism and force and can be removed only by force. Steadfastness in the face of surrender is only a sign of strength.

EL MOUDJAHID: POLISARIO VICTORY CERTAIN

LD151053Y Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 10 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] The recent French air raid against POLISARIO soldiers, inside the very borders of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, has, among other things, cruelly confirmed the French Government's effective involvement against the Saharan people.

Thus, following the "declaration of intent" made by Paris, particularly on the eve of the legislative elections, the French Government is resuming its policy of hegemony, in Africa in general and in the Maghreb in particular. The remarks which Mr de Guiringaud made recently are significant in this respect. They show that Paris is far from relinquishing the "old methods," which give priority to Jaguars, phosphorus and napalm bombs. On the other side of the Mediterranean the talk is all of "defense," "military aid" and "instructors" on the one hand, "safeguarding" on the other. All this warlike terminology is current with reference to Africa especially. It is as if Paris would like to believe that gunboat diplomacy will inevitably persuade the peoples to abandon their just causes. But this is mere illusion.

Algeria recently celebrated with composure the anniversary of the colonial massacres of 8 May 1945. History teaches that these atrocities, which were similar to those committed in the Western Sahara, did not prevent the Algerian people from snatching their freedom. On the contrary, they only strengthened their determination to fight to regain their independence. At the same time, the Vietnamese people were commemorating the victory at Dien Bien Phu which put an end to French colonial oppression in Indochina. The Saharan patriots are in no way intimidated by the Jaguars, and during the last French air raid they hit two of the planes which had flown from Dakar. It is apparent that their struggle is merely intensifying and their success rate rising.

In fact, by their fight to recover their despoiled homeland and win their independence, the Saharan people have triggered an irreversible process which cannot be controlled, still less halted, either by the expansionist forces of Rabat and Nouakchott or by the Paris "strike force." The French Government's interventionism only serves to intensify the POLISARIO fighters' struggle and to win them ever-increasing support at the international level. The stances adopted recently by the British Labor Party and the PCE--which is asking the Spanish Government to reconsider the Madrid agreement--and the Soviet Union's reaffirmation of its support for self-determination for the Saharan people, show clearly on which side victory certainly lies.

PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM CYPRIOT LEADER

TA151846Y Nicosia Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 15 May 78 TA

[Text] President Boumediene of Algeria has said that the Cyprus problem can only be solved on the basis of the UN resolutions. The Algerian leader was speaking during a meeting with the director general of the Cyprus Foreign Ministry, Mr Pelayias, who handed him a personal message from President Kiprianou.

During their 1-hour meeting, Mr Pelayias informed President Boumediene of the latest Cyprus developments and explained why the proposals submitted by the Turkish side were totally unacceptable.

President Boumediene referred to the firm and longstanding friendship between Algeria and Cyprus and said his country would continue to support firmly the rights of the Cypriot people.

LIBYA

LIBYA PROTESTS TO ZAIRE OVER 'FALSE ACCUSATIONS' OF INVOLVEMENT

LD162220Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] The Foreign Secretariat has summoned the ambassador of Zaire to the Jamahiriya and handed him a protest against false and unfounded accusations connected with the events currently taking place in Zaire. A responsible source at the Foreign Secretariat asserted that reports by news agencies quoting an official in Kinshasa accusing certain states, including the Jamahiriya, of being responsible for what happened and is happening in Zaire, are false and unfounded accusations, and that it is truly regrettable that certain African regimes which are suffering internal problems and facing popular opposition should resort to accusations, using them as a justification for their involvement in suspect relations with the colonizer and as a justification for foreign intervention in their countries, a fact which is inconsistent with the charter and aims of the OAU, and which allows the colonizer the opportunity of continuing to interfere in the continent's affairs. Instead of trying to solve their own problems with their peoples, these regimes resort to haphazardly leveling accusations and insulting national progressive regimes.

The official source at the Foreign Secretariat concluded his statement by saying: While the Jamahiriya denounces these statements, it asserts that it has no connection whatsoever with what happened and is happening in Zaire and that it warns the colonialists of the consequences of interfering in the affairs of the African Continent, because the African peoples will not stand with arms folded in the face of the imperialist interventions which seek to return the African Continent to the 19th century and to restore imperialist domination over that continent.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN RECEIVES PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER SOARES

LD161532Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] This morning in Fez, King Hassan II received Mr Mario Soares, Portuguese prime minister, in the presence of Prime Minister Osman; Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; and Ahmed Redha Guedira, adviser to the king.

After the meeting, Mr Mario Soares told newsmen that his talks with the king had covered bilateral relations, which are extremely good. He said that Morocco and Portugal are two neighboring countries with common interests.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ARAB SOLIDARITY

NC170830Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0735 GMT 17 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 17 May--Chairman of the Arab Solidarity Committee Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has stressed that as a result of the contacts and meetings he has had so far in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, he finds that there is cause for optimism. He said we are on the threshold of a new era based on Arab solidarity instead of division and on collective Arab action instead of individual action.

In an interview he granted to the 17 May issue of the weekly magazine 'AKHIR SA'AH, President Numayri said he has become convinced in the course of his contacts that no matter how big Arab differences may be, they are nothing compared to Arab unanimity on the need to unite the ranks and achieve Arab solidarity.

The chairman of the Arab Solidarity Committee added that his talks with the heads of states he has visited so far have convinced him that there is total and common agreement among them that the present Arab state of affairs with its lack of Arab solidarity is in absolute nonconformity with the increasing Zionist danger to the rights and aims of the Arab nation.

President Numayri added that there was complete agreement among all the Arab heads of state with whom he met during his tour on the need to find a formula for collective Arab action. This is necessary in order to confront the challenges and dangers facing the Arab nation as a result of the Israeli aggression against the Arab territories and Arab rights. There was also agreement among all the Arab kings and presidents he met that the resolutions of the Rabat and Algiers summit conferences can serve as a solid and objective basis for collective Arab action.

Concluding his interview, President Numayri said he will visit the rest of the Arab states to complete his consultations with the Arab kings and presidents in order to enable the Arab Solidarity Committee to form a picture of collective Arab action on the basis of Arab reality as a whole and within the framework of the aims and aspirations of our Arab nation.

CHAD PRESIDENT PROMISES NO ACTION WHILE MEDIATION EFFORTS CONTINUE

LD161702Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Chad President Felix Malloum has thanked President Numayri for his personal concern for the situation in Chad, stressing that he will take no measures on the Chadian problem while Sudan continues its efforts to achieve a cease-fire and peace in Chad. This is what Sudan's ambassador in Ndjamen was told when he delivered an urgent message to President Malloum from his brother, President Numayri, concerning the current situation in Chad, and briefing him on the forthcoming visits of 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the republic and chairman of the Chad cease-fire military committee, to Tripoli and Ndjamen, in pursuit of his efforts regarding the task entrusted to him.

The president of Chad added that he welcomed the anticipated visit of 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, saying he hoped to meet him in the immediate future and before his visit to Tripoli, in view of the Chad president's planned visit to Paris on 18 May.

The leader president had charged the Sudanese ambassador in Ndjamen with delivering an urgent message to the Chad president, assuring the latter that he is following with deep interest what is taking place in Chad and the efforts being made to bring about national unity. President Numayri asked President Malloum to continue these efforts in response to the high hopes pinned by the peoples of the African Continent on the current efforts to achieve unity and peace in Chad.

V. 17 May 78

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NORTH AFRICA

FINANCE MINISTER RECEIVES PLO KHARTOUM REPRESENTATIVE

JN131441Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 13 May 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 13 May--'Uthman Hashim, minister of finance and national economy, met here today with Abu Haytham, PLO representative in Khartoum. The discussion during the meeting centered on the current Arab situation and the anticipated positive results of President Numayri's efforts to restore Arab solidarity.

Abu Haytham asserted the PLO's support for these efforts. He praised President Numayri's stands during the critical circumstances through which the Palestinian struggle had passed.

TUNISIA

GDR DEFENSE MINISTER HOFFMANN ARRIVES ON VISIT TO TUNISIA

LD161413Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] GDR Minister of National Defense Gen Heinz Hoffmann arrived at Tunis International Airport, Carthage, this morning. He expressed pleasure at visiting Tunisia, noting the good relations between the two countries. He hopes that these relations will grow stronger in the future.

Meets With Tunisian Officials

LD162037Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohamed Fitouri met this evening with the GDR minister of national defense, army Gen Heinz Hoffmann. Their talks dealt with issues of common interest. Minister of National Defense Abdallah Farhat and his GDR counterpart reviewed bilateral relations and discussed issues of common interest and the strengthening of cooperation between the two countries. During the meeting topics concerning the consolidation of world peace and resistance to racism and neocolonialism were raised.

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA RETURNS FROM LIBYA

LD152021Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Hedi Nouira returned to Tunis this evening following an official visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, during which he led the Tunisian delegation to the meeting of the Tunisian-Libyan Higher Joint Commission, and had several meetings with a number of officials at the level of the Jamahiriya's political leadership. The prime minister will inform the president of the results reached by the fourth session of the higher joint commission and of his talks with the leaders in the fraternal country.

On his arrival Prime Minister Hedi Nouira made a statement to the radio and television correspondent: [begin recording]

[Nouira] [Words indistinct] we have presented the Tunisian and Libyan peoples with everything we can offer for the sake of consolidating bilateral relations, out of our belief that no two neighbors can coexist without absolute cooperation; this is what we have agreed upon. [end recording]

V. 17 May 78

I S R A E L

N 1

SOURCES CONFIRM AS-SADAT HAS PROPOSED SEPARATE PEACE

TA161111Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 May 78 p 1 TA

[Excerpt] Senior Israeli sources this morning confirmed that the president of Egypt, Anwar as-Sadat, agreed to sign a separate peace with Israel, but under certain conditions.

The Egyptian conditional willingness to make a separate peace with Israel was passed on to the cabinet at the time and was commented on by the president of Egypt in his meetings with Israeli personalities, including Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. Israel did not publish this fact, but now, since As-Sadat himself has announced it, the senior elements are attaching special importance to it.

REACTION TO, COMMENT ON SENATE VOTE CONTINUES

Defense Minister Weizman

TA161802Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The package deal is behind us and we should now consider how to face the problem from the military point of view. These remarks were made by Defense Minister Weizman this evening. He said that when the Soviet Union pulled out of a few Middle East countries it was clear that the United States would enter those places on the wing of the F-15. We find ourselves in the midst of the struggle between the Soviet Union and the United States over areas of influence in the Middle East and will have to learn how to swim in these muddy waters. 'Ezer Weizman was speaking at the MAFDAL conference. Our correspondent Gid'on Rotem brings some of his remarks: [begin recording]

[Weizman] We will stop dealing with the aircraft deal and begin dealing with how to treat them if, God forbid, we have to fight against them. It will be possible to stand up to 60 F-15's. Nothing is impossible. We should think, plan and prepare. I am not, God forbid, justifying what has happened. I strongly suggest and recommend, however, that we skip the stage in which we analyze what should have been done, where and by whom.

I am ready to say another thing on this matter: I am not underrating the gravity of having sophisticated planes alined against us in Saudi Arabia in 3 years or earlier. What has happened touches more on the political aspect than on the purely military aspect of this and that number of planes, of this or the other kind, deployed in this place or the other. We will have to consider our moves carefully with regard to the United States which--despite requests, pressures, discussions and presentations of the subject--did what it did. I do not recommend viewing this as totally negative and black. I recommend viewing this as a move in which we have not exactly succeeded. I recommend that we, and especially the IDF and the air force, begin to consider, from now on, how to stand up to this problem from the purely military point of view.

[Rotem] Mr Weizman said that Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt today have between 6,000 to 7,000 tanks and that after the package deal we will also have to take the Saudi Air Force into account. He mentioned that up to now Saudi Arabia has taken part, though with small forces, in all the wars. Mr Weizman stressed the feeling prevailing in Egypt today that the Egyptians won the Yom Kippur war. This feeling is what led to As-Sadat's peace initiative, according to the defense minister.

[Weizman] I repeat, we find ourselves in a new, unprecedented situation. The leader of the largest country in the Middle East--and the gap between him and us today is huge--comes and launches a peace offensive against us. I think this is one of the most difficult defense issues we have ever faced. We should try to maneuver ourselves properly, either toward peace or at least toward making it understood that we have done everything we could and that if peace does not exist it is not our fault. [end recording]

Prime Minister Begin

TA162111Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said this evening that the decision by the U.S. Senate to endorse the administration's arms deal is a serious decision, the gravity of which should not be underrated. The State of Israel received over 2 and 1/2 years ago an absolute, unconditional commitment. We regret that a condition was added to this commitment, in the course of time. The prime minister said that Israel's friends should know that an attempt is being made to dictate peace conditions to us and to push us into narrow straits from which it will be not simply difficult but impossible to defend the civilian population.

The prime minister emphasized that Israel will continue its efforts for peace, but peace conditions cannot be dictated to Israel. Negotiations should be held about the peace conditions. Begin noted that we have had difficulties in the past and will have difficulties in future, but we shall overcome them as we have so far. Mr Begin spoke at an awards ceremony for outstanding industrialists in Tel Aviv.

Jerusalem Political Circles

TA162023Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[Text] Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports on how political circles in Jerusalem evaluate the vote in the U.S. Senate:

In the first half of the eighties Israel will have to take into account a considerable increase in the Arab military potential in quantity as well as in quality, and prepare for this situation accordingly. Preparation means intensive development of the Ayre aircraft; increased pressure on the United States regarding U.S.-Israeli coproduction of the F-16; and energetic action by Israel's friends in the United States to augment quantities of military procurement from the United States.

Israel will demand from the United States appropriate compensation in arms for the damage, resulting from the deal, to one of its security components. Saudi Arabia has become a confrontation state, it is maintained.

It has been learned that immediately after the vote a high-ranking personality in the U.S. administration reported to Ambassador Dinitz in a very apologetic way on what has happened. That personality reiterated that nothing has changed in the U.S. commitment to Israel.

At the cabinet session next Sunday, answers to the U.S. questions regarding our position on Judaea and Samaria were scheduled to be discussed. After last night, however, it is doubted whether the cabinet will arrive at a discussion of this subject. The cabinet session will probably be devoted to a discussion of various aspects of the three-fold deal.

MK's Arens, Peres

TA161813Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[Excerpts] And now, to sum up the reaction of Israeli leaders--David Apple: [begin recording]

One man who definitely does believe that Israel should develop its future generation plane is Prof Moshe Arens, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. And, to some extent, Arens blames the previous government for not already having done so.

[Arens] I simply feel that if the previous government had initiated the development of a next generation fighter aircraft at Israel Aircraft Industries, we would have been in a position where we would not have had to ask the United States for the supply of F-16 aircraft, and then, conceivably, the Carter administration would not have felt itself to be in a position to unilaterally sell modern aircraft to Arab countries at a time when Israel was not being supplied. But since that decision was not taken in due time, we were in a position where we continued to be dependent on supplies from the United States, and this created the situation that the Carter administration exploited in order to send modern arms to Arab countries as well.

[Apple] In view of the situation that has now developed, could Israel go ahead and develop this future generation fighter?

[Arens] That's not a decision that I can take because I'm not in the Executive Branch of the government.

[Apple] Do you recommend such a decision?

[Arens] I recommend it very strongly.

[Apple] Professor Arens, in view of Israel's air might, its possession of the Kfir fighter, the F-15, the F-16, just how serious a threat is this arms deal to the security of Israel?

[Arens] I think it brings about a very serious change in the arms balance in the air. Because, until the present time, the Saudi Arabian Air Force had some British Lightning aircraft--and, say, the difference between a Lightning and the F-15 is something in the order of three generations--well it's a revolutionary change in the capability of the Saudi Arabian Air Force as it well may be once they get the F-15's. And, also in Egypt, although the aircraft that they are presently getting are F-5E's, I'm sure that they will be asking for more advanced aircraft in the future. These aircraft come with modern American electronics, ordnance and missilery that up to this time have not been in Egyptian hands. And as you know, Israel has been at a significant disadvantage in terms of numbers of aircraft all these years. That ratio is something on the order of three or four to one against Israel. And we have been able to overcome that disadvantage by quality. This has been quality of pilots, but not only quality of pilots, also quality of equipment. And we're going to lose that edge on them.

[Apple] That was Prof Moshe Arens. The leader of Israel's opposition, Shim'on Peres, sees two changes, both of which give him cause for concern: the change in the military situation and the change in Israel's relations with the United States of America.

[Peres] As far as the Middle East is concerned, until now, there was more or less a tacit situation between Saudi Arabia and ourselves.

Both at the places we met, say alongside the straits of Tiran and the Solomon Gulf, or the Aqaba Gulf, and in the balance of arms between us and Saudi Arabia, I think that both Israel and Saudi Arabia could have felt that no one of these countries represents a danger to the other country. Israel obviously never had any hostile intention toward Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabia was neither equipped nor deployed in a way which would pose a danger to Israel. By supplying the Saudi Arabians with the most modern piece of equipment, namely, long-range bombers that may endanger our cities and our installations and our people, I believe an unnecessary and an unwelcome change was introduced in the situation in the Middle East.

I'm also worried because of the state of relations between the United States of America and Israel. Until now, the approach of the administration and the Senate was that Israel is entitled to be satisfied in her basic needs so she will be able to maintain a balance of power by having in some domains a superiority in equipment because otherwise we are inferior in numbers; the disproportion is very great and very worrying, a case which is justified in its own right and is never connected with other political or military considerations. As a matter of fact, we were promised that this situation will be continued well in the future, after we had the two agreements with Egypt. We are very much disappointed by this resolution; surely, we admire the stand taken by almost half of the members of the Senate, but we must also watch the consequences of this resolution. [end recording]

Commentator Guiney

TA161819Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 May 78 p 1 TA

[Erol Guiney commentary]

[Text] After enormous efforts, the Carter administration has succeeded in passing through the Senate the aircraft "package deal." This is after it succeeded in convincing most of the senators that the risks bound up in rejecting the deal were great and immediate with regard to the national interests of the United States, while the risks to Israel in authorizing the deal were distant and less obvious.

There is no doubt that the pro-U.S. regimes in Saudi Arabia and Egypt and their relations with the United States would have been weakened in the event of a rejection of the deal. The supply of sophisticated aircraft to both these countries by 1982 has, possibly, nothing in it to significantly endanger the balance of power at this moment. This is particularly applicable in view of the fact that by that time matters in the Middle East may appear better than they appear today. However, the possibility should have been taken into account that Saudi Arabia could have received aircraft with a similar operational capability from France.

The conclusion should not be drawn from the latest development that the Senate will authorize every pro-Arab and anti-Israeli move of the administration. On the other hand, this development makes it plain that Israel can no longer rely on a guaranteed lobby in the Senate to contain such moves in every case.

It is easy to throw the responsibility for this grave new development on two factors:

--The fact that Israeli policy is less coordinated with the United States today than in the past.

--The hesitant position of the Begin cabinet, which only over the last 2 days has said clearly that it would prefer that the supply of aircraft to all three countries be stopped, rather than that sophisticated aircraft be supplied to Saudi Arabia and U.S. technology be introduced into the Egyptian armed forces.

It may be, of course, that all these were factors in the Senate decision, but the main reason, as has already been hinted, was that everything which was considered to be an economic, political and strategic interest of the United States in the Arab world appeared to the Americans to be more important than the interests of Israel.

Since a constant increase in U.S. cooperation, particularly with Saudi Arabia, is to be expected, it must be taken into account that such a development will be from now on more and more common. It would be worthwhile for Israeli politicians--and also public opinion in Israel--to weigh carefully the long-term results likely to grow out of this grave development concerning Israel.

MA'ARIV Editorial

TA161114Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 May 78 p 5 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] The State of Israel has suffered a defeat in the struggle against the sale of U.S. aircraft to Saudi Arabia and Egypt. This defeat was an unavoidable result of faulty tactics, hesitancy, lack of clarity and lack of a firm stand.

The Israeli Cabinet repeatedly expressed dissatisfaction at making military supply to Israel dependent on a parallel supply to the two Arab countries. The cabinet repeatedly expressed its view that the package deal should be voided, and that the debate over the supply of aircraft to Israel should not be bound to a debate on sales to the Arabs.

The achievement of this was impossible from the start and anyone who persisted in putting forward this unrealistic demand, instead of relating to reality and the inevitable decision, in fact left Israel's friends in the Senate embarrassed and at a loss.

Until now it has not been clear whether the Israeli Cabinet wanted the package deal to be authorized or held up. What is clear is that no serious and deliberate attempt was made to foil the administration's initiative.

The precedent created conceals within it grave dangers. The Israeli lobby has suffered a loss. The U.S. commitment to Israel's security has been given a new interpretation, a most worrisome one. A specific commitment by the previous administration has been violated.

The Israeli Cabinet cannot be absolved of the responsibility for this grave development.

Foreign Minister Dayan

TA170708Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has said he fears that the United States has changed its attitude towards Israel's defense needs. In a television interview in Copenhagen, Dayan says that the United States has never sold so many planes to Saudi Arabia or any other Arab country before.

Dayan said that it would have been correct for the United States to wait for peace before supplying planes to the Arab countries. Dayan noted that Soviet supplies of arms to the Arab countries had pushed them into war with Israel. Israel did not want the United States to step into the Soviet shoes.

BEGIN ANSWERS KNESSET MOTION ON U.S. PACKAGE DEAL

TA171125Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said at the Knesset at noon that the violation of the absolute commitment regarding arms supplies given to Israel by the United States more than 2 and 1/2 years ago is grave. The linking of the supply to Israel to the supply to Arab countries that are in a state of war with us is also grave. The situation created puts Israel to a test and the prime minister believes and is confident that we will overcome it. The government will deal with this subject at the beginning of next week and will bring its decisions to the attention of the Knesset.

Begin mentioned that this is not the first time that the United States has supplied modern arms to our adversaries. It has given over 70 aircraft to Jordan and over 100 to Saudi Arabia. The prime minister also mentioned the reassessment period which lasted for months during Rabin's government. The prime minister was answering a motion submitted to the Knesset agenda by Alignment MK Moshe Shahal on the issue of the aircraft deal approved in Washington.

In presenting his motion, MK Shahal said that all U.S. claims that the F-15's to be supplied to Saudi Arabia will not affect the balance of power are hollow, worthless claims. Shahal believes that the prime minister is not taking into account the problem of the arming of our neighbors and has not raised the issue in his talks with the U.S. President. The government, according to the Alignment's representative, acted hesitatingly and without strategy.

After Begin answered these remarks he proposed that the issue be transferred to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and his proposal was accepted.

A proposal by Hadash MK Tawfiq Tubi to remove the matter from the agenda was rejected by a large majority. Shelli MK Me'ir Pa'il refrained from voting, saying that the arms deal does not substantially change the balance of armament in the Middle East and there is no need for a scare.

DIRECTIVES ISSUED TO AVOID STATEMENTS ON DISPUTED ISSUES

TA161333Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Daliya Shehori]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman has issued directives aimed at guaranteeing that in the future statements such as those made in a television interview by Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan do not happen. This was reported the day before yesterday by the minister of defense to the cabinet at the beginning of the debate on the chief of staff's interview.

The minister of defense said that he had no intention of rebuking the chief of staff for his statements, but he admitted that there could be statements in the future on disputed issues and so he had issued the directives.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS HALT ROAD-PAVING IN SAMARIA

TA151621Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 15 May 78 p 2 TA

[By Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] The defense system's plan to pave a new central road to cut through Samaria from the green line to the Jordan River was recently frozen after it was learned that the paving would cost several million Israeli pounds which the defense system finds hard to raise following the cuts in the security budget.

The plan to pave the new central road was reported about 6 months ago. That road was to have started in the area of Kafr Qasim. Settlements and strongholds were to be established along the road. The intention was to widen the existing road in several places and to add many new portions in other places.

Defense Ministry personnel said at the time that the plan for paving did not necessitate expropriation of many lands. When the plan was submitted, the planned budget was 220 million Israeli pounds; both local Arabs and local Jews were to have been employed in the work. Now it seems that the work will cost 300 million Israeli pounds. With the price rises, it has been decided to freeze the plan for the time being.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori confirmed that the plan has been frozen for the moment, but said that discussions on the matter will begin soon with the Finance Ministry, and that he hopes a solution to the financial problems will be found.

PLANS FOR RAFAH APPROACHES SETTLEMENTS REPORTED

TA151215Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 May 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Amir Shapira]

[Text] The balance between the Ma'ahazim project for settling the Sinai and the sum of money which was approved after the fact for this purpose by the Knesset Budget Committee will be used to establish temporary residences for the four settlement nuclei that were to populate the four settlements in the Rafah approaches. The development of those settlements has been postponed following the government's decision to freeze work in Qidmat Sinai.

Yesterday, a senior element in the Jewish Agency confirmed this and disclosed that besides the above-mentioned money (the cost of the strongholds has reached 12.5 million Israeli pounds according to the Yamit District members of the Jewish Agency who have carried out the work, while the Knesset Budget Committee has approved, after the fact, the transfer of 20 million Israeli pounds to the settlement department for these works), a further 37 million Israeli pounds has been approved for the same purpose. In the next few days initial work will begin on temporary buildings for the 100 families which comprise the four nuclei.

In a tour in Qidmat Sinai I found out that the four nuclei will remain this summer in three temporary living centers and that over 42 million Israeli pounds (see above) will finance the construction of light residential buildings for the families which will temporarily populate each of the following centers: dozens of residential units in the Nahal stronghold of Morag (southern Gaza Strip) and a similar number in Merkaz Avshalom (in the Sadot cluster) and in Zohar (the central cluster of the Besor settlements).

The temporary housing of the nuclei close to their target settlement site is meant to help the Jewish Agency carry out their agriculture training according to the regular standards of "the southern enterprise." The settlement Division intends to establish hothouses for the nuclei on the vacant lots being built on in the existing settlements (when in due course the future settlers who join these settlements within the framework of the "fleshing out" take possession). Thus the investment made for preparation will be used before it becomes a means of production in the hands of the permanent settler.

The four areas where the temporary population is concentrated are Prigan, Yevul, Sadot G and Sadot H. The decision on an interim solution was passed several weeks ago when it was found out that it was not a short-term freeze as had been presumed. Settlement elements estimate that this hinterland reserve might at some stage be a source of pressure on the political level to go back on its order to freeze, or, on the contrary, a source of erosion at the steadfastness of the decision. [sentence as published]

In the existing settlements in the Yamit District to which the permission to "flesh out" refers, one can see fervent construction work underway to absorb the families that have already been selected and assigned to the settlements. A view of the future population in the Rafah approaches shows that the existing settlements will, at the end of the construction work (housing and means of production) absorb over 170 families according to the following breakdown: the Qatif settlements, approximately 30; Peri'el, 30; Talmey-Josef, 20; Ne'ot Sinai, Netiv Ha'asara, Tarsag, 10; Ugda and Nir-Avraham, 15 each; Sadot, 6 families; and the two kibbutzim in the Rafah approaches, Holit and Sufa, approximately 20 families. According to the Jewish Agency's estimates the investment for preparing the infrastructure, plus housing and plus means of production for each family in the Rafah approaches is estimated at 1.5 million Israeli pounds.

TAPU'AH TO BECOME CIVILIAN SETTLEMENT IN SAMARIA

TA161934Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 May 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Amir Shapira]

[Text] The third in the series of military footholds established in Samaria to absorb settlements is to become a civilian settlement within a few days, with the beginning of the establishment of work being carried out in the Tapu'ah foothold south of Nablus on the axis leading to Jerusalem.

The work of establishing the civilian settlement in the format of a temporary settlement began yesterday in Tapu'ah after the minister of defense, who had held this up for 24 hours, examined the issue and found that the order to begin work did not contradict the interministry agreement on this issue. Yesterday a tractor began work on breaking ground near the foothold, where the first buildings will be erected for the pioneer group of the nucleus due to settle in Tapu'ah.

The agreement, according to which establishment of the civilian settlement will start at the beginning of this week, was made a few days ago on a coordination tour held by all the elements involved in this, at the invitation of Minister of Agriculture Ari'el Sharon.

The urgency in carrying out the establishment apparently springs from pressure by members of the nucleus and from the absence of a budgetary or other obstacle, since, in this connection, no cabinet decision or decision by a ministerial committee is needed.

As is accepted in such cases, the issue of the change in status of the settlement was not put forward for debate in a governmental forum. Tapu'ah was put forward as a military foothold, but the duration of its existence as a military project was not determined and the transition to civilian building on the spot does not demand a cabinet decision, simply interministry coordination. Accordingly it was agreed that it is already possible now to begin construction of the civilian settlement and the first buildings will be brought to the spot in order to accommodate the pioneer group of the nucleus due to move to the spot in another few weeks.

The Defense Ministry spokesman reported that a tractor was brought to the site the day before yesterday and was supposed to quickly prepare the ground for the buildings to be brought there, but the appearance of the tractor had not been coordinated with defense elements. Because of this the minister of defense ordered that the work be held up pending further clarifications.

Another source told me that apparently the order to hold up the tractor was the result of a misunderstanding--since it had been agreed with Ministry of Defense personnel that this would occur--but it may be that the entry of a new commander into Judaea and Samaria led to a repeat examination of the orders and agreements taken in the past and, as a result of this, a further clarification was needed.

The Tapu'ah settlement is due to be populated by members of the Moshav Birqat (near Lod) who were organized a few months ago by Gush Emunim. The nucleus contains dozens of families who are prepared for an improvised settlement and most of its members are employed in the diamond professions. Among other things, the possibility of establishing a diamond-polishing plant on the spot is being examined.

The Tapu'ah settlement is due to be developed in accordance with the plans for an industrial village to encompass about 100 families and it is sited on the junction of the main artery of the West Bank between Nabulus and Jerusalem and the highway across Samaria which is planned to cross the breadth of the West Bank.

WEST BANK LEADERS OPPOSE AUTONOMY PLAN

TA170711Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[Text] Many personalities from the territories have expressed to officers of the military authority absolute opposition to the Israeli autonomy plan. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that in fact all personages whose views the military authority wanted to hear rejected the plan outright saying they would not support it as long as it does not enjoy support in the Arab world. They are prepared to view the plan as a possibility for an interim settlement but absolutely not as a final solution. They also rejected the idea of a choice between Israeli and Jordanian citizenship, saying they want an identity of their own.

These personages expressed opposition to the continuation of settlement after autonomy is achieved and opposed the idea that internal security in Judaea and Samaria would continue to be in Israeli hands. Our correspondent says that the military authority consulted in particular personages who are defined as moderate. A few of them later checked with Jordan for its position and were told that Amman is not considering the plan.

ACCUSATIONS AGAINST SOLDIERS IN NABULUS DENIED

TA151753Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 May 78 TA

[Text] The military government in Judaea and Samaria has investigated the accusation by the mayor of Nabulus that during the curfew soldiers harmed women living in the region and even carried out body searches of them. The military government found that there is no basis for these accusations. The military government's spokesman, Maj Shim'on Lendes, reported this to our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari.

BURG SPEAKS TO NRP BEFORE MAFDAL CONVENTION

TA151242Y Jerusalem POST in English 15 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Interior Minister Yosef Burg yesterday suggested to his National Religious Party that it should seriously consider forming a religious front with the ultra-orthodox Agudat Yisra'el.

The suggestion was made at the opening ceremony of the NRP's fifth convention, at Binyeney Ha'uma in Jerusalem.

Burg expressed satisfaction with the fact that Agudat Yisra'el had joined the ruling coalition, and added it is about time to consider forming a front. (The NRP controls 12 Knesset mandates, Agudat Yisra'el four and Po'aley Agudat Yisra'el one).

The proposal was not in the written text of Burg's prepared speech for the convention. It was received with applause.

Agudat Yisra'el MK Rabbi Shelomo Gross told the Jerusalem POST last night that if a concrete proposal were made, his party would submit it to the Council of Torah Sages. "Whatever the council decided--we would accept," he said. Gross refused to say what he thought the decision might be, or what he himself felt about the possibility of an NRP-Agudat linkup.

The three big factors have meanwhile agreed on the division of power in the NRP. Dani Vermis (of the youth faction of Education Minister Zevulun Hammer) will be secretary-general. Burg's Lamifne faction will appoint Hapo'el Hamizrakhi secretary-general and the chairman of the Organization Department. This department will be divided into three regions, each headed by one of the factions.

The new party executive will be increased from 50 to 74 members.

Meanwhile hawks and doves in the NRP were preparing for the political discussion which is expected to open in the committee meetings today and at the plenary tomorrow. MK David Glass told the Jerusalem POST he will call for territorial compromise on all fronts, a halt to Jewish settlement in the administered territories while negotiations are going on, and a statement that security considerations should take priority over others in deciding the future of the territories.

But he acknowledged that the 900-member convention is unlikely to endorse this stand. He said he is prepared to compromise on a statement that will not bind party leaders in any way.

The last NRP convention--held during the Alignment government--stated that "the NRP will not be able to be a participant in cabinet responsibility if the cabinet presents a peace proposal containing a readiness to concede part of Eretz Yisra'el, the land of our forefathers."

Some members of the youth faction, which is led by hawks, suggested yesterday endorsing Glass's proposal to drop that clause. But MK Yehuda Ben-Meir, in an attempt to block support for Glass, suggested forming a committee to redraft the political section. A participant in the meeting said the matter was left undecided because there were too many doves present for the hawks' liking.

Addressing yesterday evening's meeting, Burg criticised Israel's "friends" abroad for discussing the future of the administered territories "without knowing or wanting to know what they're talking about."

Burg attacked proposals that Israel return to the pre-six day war boundaries, adding that he had the impression that the Americans are encouraging Egypt's President Anwar as-Sadat to harden his position. Washington, he added, is being influenced "by things said here and published in advertisements by the vocal minority" (a reference to the Peace Now Movement).

Prime Minister Menahem Begin, in a brief speech, talked about the power of faith which had led to the establishment of the State of Israel. In an obvious reference to the pressures he is now facing, Begin said: "Faithful Jews were never deterred by difficulties. They never surrendered to threats. We have always believed in Israel's rock and redeemer. We have always believed in divine providence which leads us forward despite all difficulties."

Chief Rabbis Shelomo Goren and 'Ovadia Yosef also delivered their greetings.

The convention will meet in Kefar Hamaccabi in Ramat Gan today. It ends on Wednesday.

GAS DEPOSIT FOUND AT DIQLA IN RAFAH APPROACHES

TA14143CY Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 May 78 p 4 TA

[By Avraham Dishon]

[Excerpt] Commercially valuable quantities of gas have been found at the Diqla site in the Rafah approaches. In the next few days it will be possible to determine the exact quantities available.

Another drilling site is planned in the area to find the exact location of the gas field. Nevertheless, it is clear that there is no chance of finding oil in the site, as was previously thought.

Commercial quantities of gas were also found in the Sadot-3 site, 1.5 km from the Sadot-2 site. Drilling in the Sukkot site, 8 km from Sadot, will begin at the end of the month. Work there has been delayed because of difficulties in clearing a road and laying waterpipes to the site.

MEXICO REPORTEDLY TO INCREASE CRUDE OIL SALES

TA161020Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 May 78 TA

[Text] Mexico will increase crude oil sales to Israel by about 40 percent, from an average 25,000 to 30,000 barrels a day.

Speaking at an Israel 30th anniversary celebration in Mexico City, Israeli Ambassador Sha'ul Rosolio said that Israel in turn will try to sell Mexico electronic and chemical technological, desert irrigation systems and solar power and dairy farm technology.

AFGHANISTAN

TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER TARAHI'S 9 MAY SPEECH

LD152316Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Address to the nation by Afghan Prime Minister Taraki]

[Text] In the name of Almighty God, here are the main points of the revolutionary duties of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] which have been ratified by the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Dear compatriots, the armed uprising of 27 April 1978, which was accomplished, as a starting point of the national democratic revolution, by the will of the workers of Afghanistan under the guidance of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan through the valiant and patriotic officers and soldiers, has started a new historical phase in our beloved homeland of Afghanistan. The full realization of the democratic and national revolution in this historical phase requires the implementation of the obvious and necessary duties of the Government of the DRA whose main lines have been defined and approved, in accordance with our usual general procedure, by the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Of course, prior to describing the main lines of the government's revolutionary duties, it seems necessary to throw some light on the background of the 27 April revolution.

A military coup took place in Afghanistan on 17 July 1973, with the participation of a number of patriotic officers, as a result of which the monarchy was seemingly overthrown. The grounds for the overthrow of the corrupt and deposed regime of the monarchy had been previously prepared through the persistent struggle of the patriotic revolutionary forces under the leadership of the Democratic Khalq Party of Afghanistan. But oppressive and power-hungry Sardar Mohammad Daud, in a Machiavellian manner, centered state power on his own person. At the outset, in order to deceive the public, he announced a relatively progressive program which received the support of the progressive forces. But over a period of 5 years (?almost no progress) took place in the country's social and economic development. The remnants of the decadent monarchy and corrupt bureaucracy and the torture machine of the monarchial regime and of the ruling, oppressive and exploitationist classes remained alive and intact in the country. The band of Mohammad Nadir's royal family continued their treacherous royal conspiracies inside the country and abroad thanks to the collusion of the internal and foreign enemies of the people of Afghanistan.

The political power of the oppressive and exploiting classes continued to be exerted by the regime as before. As a result, governmental power in Afghanistan was not transferred to the democratic and national strata and (?masses). After a short time, Mohammad Daud (?threw out) the national and progressive elements from government posts and practically united with the rightist, reactionary, royalist elements and the agents of internal and foreign reaction, and appointed the admirers and supporters of the antiquated royal organization and traitors to sensitive government posts. He was [word indistinct] struggling in vain to disguise the real nature of his antidemocratic and antinational aims and intentions by deceptively calling them progressive and revolutionary and speaking of serving the people. In fact, he left the oppressive machinery of the royal regime, which was created by the bloodthirsty Nadir and the butcher Hashem in a colonialist manner, untouched and relied heavily on it. The demagogue Mohammad Daud was a so-called progressive in words only, but, in practice, he pursued an antidemocratic and treasonous antinational policy.

He (?violated) the people's political liberties and denied them their democratic rights. And, with utter shamelessness, he humiliated and (?fooled) the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan with his colonialist method of administration under the pretext that the people of Afghanistan had not yet attained political maturity.

The dark regime of Daud, without the slightest respect for the heroic struggle of the people of Afghanistan against colonialism, oppression and reaction, impudently claimed that a few corrupt elements and agents of reaction and imperialism under the leadership of the so-called National Revolutionary Party, which was antirevolutionary and antinational by nature, could lead our hard-working people to their natural maturity. The terrorist and suffocating regime of Mohammad Daud, in order to deceive the masses [words indistinct] and shield them from reality, had turned the revolution and its meaning into a plaything. In order to prevent the dissemination of the progressive revolutionary thoughts of our time and to hinder the people's awareness, he treacherously [word indistinct] scientific ideology and justified his unscientific, self-styled, incoherent, bogus and confounded ideology which he called national ideology but which in practice lacked any national content.

The country's economic situation was deteriorating daily thanks to the enervating economic policy of Mohammad Daud's regime which was accompanied by administrative corruption, lawbreaking, bribery, forgery and various forms of abuse. A trivial investment was heralded as a part of the so-called 7-year development plan, 80 percent of which relied on foreign aid and foreign loans. In spite of that, during the first and second years of its 7-year plan, the regime failed to provide or to spend one-third or even one-sixth of its total development budget. For example, in 1976, out of a sum of 14.027 billion afghanis of the allocated development budget, only 5.762 billion afghanis were spent. In 1977, out of 20.233 billion afghanis, only about 3.500 billion afghanis were spent.

Instead of searching for secure internal and foreign resources to finance the development projects, the regime of Mohammad Daud was prepared to sacrifice the national assets and interests of the people of Afghanistan in its treacherous political gambles, to accept foreign loans with political and economic strings and conditions attached and thus accede to the wishes of neocolonialism.

The foreign policy of the Daud regime took a daily increasing form of bargaining, compromise and surrender to imperialist reaction. Consequently, Mohammad Daud's regime, by following such an antidemocratic and antinational policy which was also opposed to the people's interests, reached the threshold of a complete transformation into a fascist and terrorist regime which was absolutely dependent on the internal and foreign reaction. The manifestation of this was the terrorizing and murder of various individuals including one of the most patriotic and hard-working sons of the people, the martyr Khayber, the Parcham leader, and the plan for the arrest, imprisonment, putting in chains, terrorizing and execution of the revolutionary patriots and the crushing of the progressive and democratic patriotic forces, including the present members of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA. As such, it was quite obvious that the masses of the people, under the bloody claws of the Zahirshahi and Daudi regimes, were forced to live in conditions of cruelty, oppression, poverty, unemployment, disease and illiteracy.

These dissatisfactions recently turned from potential into action and were transformed from quantitative accumulation into qualitative changes, and the objective and subjective conditions for the inception of the national and democratic revolution reached maturity.

In light of this, the armed revolutionary uprising of 27 April under the leadership of the Democratic People's Party--in broad daylight, in the shortest time and with the least casualties--folded the black roll of the terrorist and (?demagogic) regime of Mohammad Daud. For this reason, the revolutionary uprising of 27 April is the victorious revolution of the people of Afghanistan and not a coup d'etat.

The Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA, which has been formed after the accomplishment of the armed revolution of 27 April by the will of the freedom-loving and hard-working people of the country and which symbolizes the sovereignty of the classes and the democratic uprising of the masses of Afghanistan, regard it as their duty to evolve and consolidate, with the support and participation of the vast masses of the people, the democratic and national revolution which has started lawfully and victoriously in Afghanistan and to lead it in the direction of the final victory.

The Government of the DRA, having in mind the preparation of conditions for the creation of the People's Revolutionary Council and the promulgation of the DRA's constitution, and seriously considering the inviolability of the principles of the democratic liberties of individuals and families and the realization and consolidation of the democratic principles of legality in the country, respects the principles of the sacred religion of Islam, the approved national traditions and customs and the principle of private ownership and will fulfill its revolutionary duties at this stage along the following fundamental lines.

In the area of internal policy:

The defense of the DRA's territorial integrity, national sovereignty, national independence; the decisive defense of the achievements of the 27 April revolution; the crushing of the antirevolution forces; the realization of the unity of action of all the progressive and patriotic forces in their defense of the revolution, and the realization of security, inviolability of rights and freedom and patriotism are the (?highest values) in the eyes of the Government of the DRA, the solution of the issues relating to economic backwardness; the creation of an independent and national economy; the acceleration of the pace of economic growth; the development and modernization of agriculture and livestock breeding; the country's industrialization and the need to raise the living standards of the masses of the people--all this requires the implementation of the following fundamental socioeconomic reforms in the shortest possible time:

1. The implementation of democratic land reforms for the benefit of the hard-working farmers with the active participation of the people themselves; the reclamation of barren lands; the expansion and reform of the irrigation system and a solution for the issue of grazing lands;
2. The abolition of feudal and prefeudal relations;
3. The adoption of necessary measures in the field of internal and foreign trade for the benefit of the people and the country's national interests;
4. The strengthening of the state sector of the economy through scientific planning; the establishment of effective sovereignty over the country's natural resources, and the training of national cadres;
5. The democratization of social life and the state organization;
6. The democratic solution of the national issue; [as heard]

7. The curtailment of the influence of neocolonialist imperialism in the various economic, political, cultural, social and ideological fields;
8. The elimination from the state organization of the antirevolution elements and elements opposed to the interests of the people and the homeland and the creation of a healthy democratic administration that would serve the people;
9. The strengthening and development of the heroic, liberation army of the DRA which defends the revolution and its achievements; the realization of full and just rights for the patriotic officers and soldiers, especially regarding their broad participation in the country's life and political and social activities, alongside all the patriots without any discrimination and privilege;
10. The realization of democracy for the people; the assurance of democratic rights and liberties and the fulfillment of the economic and trade union aspirations of the people of Afghanistan including the workers, farmers, officers and soldiers, professionals and businessmen, intellectuals, patriotic religious leaders, hard-working nomads, the low class strata and the middle class strata--that is to say merchants--and the country's national capital owners;
11. The promulgation and enforcement of democratic laws in all areas and the abolition of all laws, regulations and institutions which contradict the principles and aspirations of the revolution of 27 April;
12. The realization of equal rights for women to match those of men in all social, economic, political and civil areas;
13. The democratic solution of the issue of the nomads--mainly their settlement, education and the provision of facilities;
14. Supporting home industries and production against the competition of foreign goods and the encouragement, protection, control and guidance of private investments in industries and small and middle firms;
15. The expansion of economic relations and technical cooperation with friendly countries and obtaining their assistance free of strings and conditions in order to strengthen the pace of economic growth in the country;
16. The fundamental review of the state's revenues and expenditures in order to support the productive groups, education, health, construction and the general welfare.
17. The review of the taxation system in the country in order to reduce indirect taxation and increase direct and progressive taxation;
18. The stabilization and control of prices as necessary for the benefit of the people;
19. The realization of primary education on a general, compulsory and free-of-charge basis for all the country's children [words indistinct] and the creation of all the necessary conditions for an effective campaign against illiteracy;
20. The expansion of free middle, high and vocational education for the purpose of training scientific and technical cadres required by the country's economic growth, and a review of all the curricula in schools and institutes of higher education;
21. The creation of a progressive cultural and national system, and in the first place, the realization of necessary conditions for the evolution of arts, literature, education and publications in the vernacular languages of the ethnic groups and nationalities residing in Afghanistan;
22. The realization of free health services and putting an end to antisocial profit-seeking in health matters, combating various diseases and the expansion of preventive and social medicine.

23. The adoption of effective measures for the eradication of all forms of atrocity and oppression, unemployment, illiteracy, bribery, bureaucracy, profiteering and smuggling and a campaign against prostitution, gambling, addiction to alcoholic beverages, hashish, opium and other narcotics;

In the area of foreign policy:

The relations of the Government of the DRA with neighboring and friendly countries are based on the criterion of their attitude vis-a-vis our democratic and national revolution. The DRA's foreign policy is as follows:

24. The pursuance of the policy of nonalignment and positive and active neutrality; an independent and peace-seeking policy founded on the principles of peaceful co-existence;
25. The establishment of neighborly relations, friendship and cooperation with all the neighbors of the DRA; the all-round expansion and the consolidation of friendly relations with our great northern neighbor, the Soviet Union; the expansion of friendly relations with India; the realization of the DRA's friendly relations with Iran, Pakistan and China; the solution, through peaceful talks, of the national issue of the Pushtun and Baluchi masses on the basis of their self-determination in view of the historical background, negotiations and understandings between the DRA and Pakistan;
26. The effort to preserve world peace and to consolidate the foundations of peace in the region; the struggle for international disarmament, and in the first place, to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons; the closure of military bases existing on the soil of others; and the expansion and deepening of international detente;
27. Supporting national liberation movements of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle against the new and old colonialism and against imperialism;
28. Supporting the just rights of the Arab people and the rights of the Palestinian people including the formation of a Palestinian state;
29. Supporting the people and patriotic forces of southern Africa in their just and legitimate demands and in their struggle against apartheid and racism;
30. Respect and observation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Charter.

Dear compatriots, while the Revolutionary Council and Government of the DRA has undertaken these great and important historical duties, it requests all the people of Afghanistan to unite themselves with all the democratic, patriotic and progressive forces under the banner of unity and solidarity and the leadership of the Democratic People's Party so that, in this way, the democratic and national revolution of the people of Afghanistan can attain its final victory--which it must attain--in the shortest possible time. In this way, a democratic society will come about at first, to be followed by a society of welfare and prosperity, free from all forms of national and social oppression and free and secure from the exploitation of one man by another.

Long live the DRA! Long live the people of Afghanistan! March forward in the direction of peace, the consolidation of national independence, democracy, progress and genuine social justice!

INDIA

KUNDU DEPARTS FOR HAVANA NONALINED MEETING

BK170852Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 May 78 BK

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Somarendra Kundu, left New Delhi for Havana last night to head the Indian delegation at the Nonalined Coordinating Bureau meeting.

In a statement before his departure, he said the meeting should provide an opportunity for strengthening the unity and solidarity of the nonalined movement.

INDIA RADIO COMMENTS ON INDICTMENT OF MRS GANDHI

BK161147Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 16 May 78 BK

[Commentary by N. S. Bedi]

[Text] The two interim reports of the Shah Commission presented to Parliament yesterday clearly indict the former prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, on various counts. The commission was appointed by the Janata government last year to inquire into certain specific instances of excesses, malpractices and misuse of authority during the emergency proclaimed in June 1975. The one-man commission was headed by a former chief justice of India, Mr Justice J. C. Shah. The inquiry, which is continuing, has evoked wide interest in the country and abroad. Its proceedings have been getting extensive coverage in the press and other media.

The two interim reports were given by the commission some time ago. After full consideration, the government has accepted the observations and recommendations contained in the reports. A government memorandum placed before Parliament, along with the reports, points out that on a number of matters there are grounds for initiating legal action. It adds that in accordance with the law, rules and administrative processes, action will be taken after careful examination of each case.

Perhaps the most significant observations of the Shah Commission are those relating to the very imposition of the emergency. The commission holds it to be a political decision made by Mrs Gandhi to save herself from the legitimate compulsion of the verdict of the Allahabad High Court. By that verdict, it may be recalled, the election to the Lok Sabha in 1971 had been invalidated, and she had been unseated for having adopted corrupt poll practices. The commission has found no evidence or circumstances which would warrant declaration of an internal emergency. It says there was no breakdown of law and order or deterioration of the economic conditions. In her anxiety to continue in power, says the commission, Mrs Gandhi brought about a situation which directly helped her to keep in power and generated forces which sacrificed the interests of many to serve the ambitions of a few. To quote its words: "Thousands were detailed in a series of totally illegal and unwarranted action followed involving untold human miseries and suffering." [sentence as heard]

The matter in which the emergency was imposed without consulting the cabinet has also been severely criticized. The commission observes: The circumstances in which the emergency was declared and the ease with which it was accomplished should be a warning to the citizens of the country.

The two reports run into about 240 pages and cover a large number of cases. In brief, the commission has condemned the way Mrs Gandhi's younger son, Mr Sanjay Gandhi, functioned in public affairs as an extraconstitutional authority.

This, it says, is the single greatest act of excess for which there is no parallel or justification in the history of independent India. The commission is also critical of Mrs Gandhi for unlawful detention of some textile and customs officials describing the action as an abuse of authority. Some other officials were falsely implicated in criminal cases for collecting information on Maruti, a company with which Mr Sanjay Gandhi was associated. It has also held that Mrs Gandhi abused power and authority in the cases of reversion of a high court judge and nonextension of the term of another. Mr V. C. Shukla, then minister for information and broadcasting, has been found responsible for misuse of the mass media.

As our listeners may have known, Mrs Gandhi, her son and some others had refused to give evidence on oath before the Shah Commission. They had challenged the commission's authority to call for such evidence. They are now facing trial in a Delhi court for their refusal. It is not yet known what followup action is to be taken to punish those held responsible for excesses and abuse of power. However, by its clear indictment, the Shah Commission has brought to light how an authoritarian setup can distort democratic institutions and misuse the administrative machinery to serve the needs of some person or persons in power. The people gave their verdict in the general elections last year when the Congress Party, under Mrs Gandhi's leadership, was routed everywhere except in a couple of states. The victorious Janata Party has completely justified the people's confidence in it by restoring all freedoms and democratic processes in the short span of a year. The common people of India have displayed full consciousness of their democratic rights. Their vigilance ultimately is the real guarantee for the future of democracy in this country.

NEPAL

PRC BOUNDARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KATMANDU

BK161525Y Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 16 May 78 BK

[Text] A 10-member delegation representing the Chinese side at the Nepal-China Boundary Inspection Committee arrived in Katmandu today.

According to a press release issued by the Foreign Ministry, the delegation led by the deputy director of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Mr Ts'ao Ch'un-kung, will discuss with his Nepalese counterpart matters relating to the inspection, repair and reconstruction of the damaged boundary pillars and drawing up of the boundary map on a larger scale.

PAKISTAN

BHUTTO FORMALLY CHARGED WITH ELECTION RIGGING

BK170845Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0530 GMT 17 May 78 BK

[Text] A complete case against former Prime Minister Bhutto regarding the rigging of the March 1977 elections was filed yesterday at a special court in Lahore. The special court comprises Mr Justice Shafiur Rahman of the Lahore High Court.

The court has fixed the hearing of the case for the 3d of next month. Five other cases had been filed earlier against Mr Bhutto regarding various (?irregularities).

13 JOURNALISTS SENTENCED, FINED BY MILITARY COURTS

BK161528Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 May 78 BK

[Text] In Lahore, summary military courts today sentenced 13 journalists and press workers to different terms of rigorous imprisonment ranging from 6 to 9 months and imposed fines of rupees 3,000 to 10,000 on them. Those who fail to pay the fine will be liable for an additional term of 3 months' rigorous imprisonment.

These persons were arrested under Martial Law Regulations No 5 and No 33. Five persons were acquitted.

CENTO SECRETARY GENERAL VISITS PAKISTAN, MEETS CHAUDHRY

BK161621Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1047 GMT 16 May 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, May 16 (AFP)--Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) Secretary General Kamuran Guraun arrived here this morning on a weeklong visit.

He was received at the airport by senior foreign office officials.

Immediately after his arrival, Mr Guraun called on President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry and later met with the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Shannawaz Khan.

Meets With Haq

BK161715Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 May 78 BK

[Text] The secretary general of CENTO, Mr Kamuran Guraun, called on the chief of army staff and chief martial law administrator, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in Rawalpindi this evening. He also met the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi.

BRIEFS

INDIAN-EGYPTIAN AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT--India and Egypt have signed an agreement for cooperation in agriculture. The agreement was signed in Cairo 14 May by the head of the Indian delegation, Dr Sukhdev Singh, and Dr Sa'id Suqi, head of the research institutions in Egypt. Some Egyptian agricultural engineers will visit India to see how agricultural machinery is used by small farmers. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 May 78 BK]

SRI LANKA RECEIVES AID--Japanese aid to Sri Lanka in 1978 will be 40 percent higher than year. The assistance totalling \$38 million will be in the form of a commodity loan amounting to \$25 million and grants totalling \$13 million. Another improvement in Japanese aid this year, apart from lowering of its interest rate, is that the loan is totally untied, which means that it can be used for imports not only from Japan but from any part of the world. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 May 78 BK]

BUMPER RICE HARVEST--The bumper paddy harvest this year points to the possibility of the government considering the re-export of rice purchased from PRC. Minister of Trade Lalit Athulathmudala explained that the cost to Sri Lanka of a ton of Chinese rice is a little over \$200 whereas the open world market price is about \$340. The government could, therefore, make a net profit of rupees 65 million if it decided to resell Chinese rice. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 May 78 BK]

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